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Farm Department.

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THE EDITOR'S FARM NOTES.

"THE TRUTH ABOUT CRIMSON CLOVER."

I am inclined to register a kick against the editorial under that heading in *The Farmer* for June 4th. It seems to me to be fully as misleading as the statements in agricultural papers which it denounces. Among other things it says that if the information given in a paragraph quoted from the year book of the Department of Agriculture for 1897 "had been published two or three years ago it would have saved the farmers of this state considerable money." Perhaps so. But on my farm it would have been the other way, and I should have been the loser. Besides, I do not think it is fair to impliedly censure the department for not giving the public information which it did not possess and could not possess until the thing had been tested.

Even now I doubt if the facts warrant the editor in making the sweeping assertion he does that "Crimson clover is not suited to our climate and the sooner this is realized the better." I have sowed it four years in succession on my place and have lost one seeding out of the four. During the same time I have lost two seedings out of three of red clover, which tends to show that crimson clover is better adapted to the climate of my farm than red clover is. I was induced to try it in 1894 by articles in the *Rural New-Yorker*, which advocated its use, where it could be grown as a catch crop for green manure and not for a hay crop. My experience with it fully bears out all that the *Rural* claimed for it. Such crops as I have raised of it are worth more to my land than twenty loads of stable manure per acre. I will to-day show anyone who cares to look, where in July, 1895, I sowed crimson clover among the corn and plowed under all the clover the plow could handle the first week in May following.

I have wheat on the ground now, and anyone who is not blind can see from the road, thirty rods away, just where the crimson clover grew, by the ranker growth of the wheat. I shall continue to sow it for a catch crop to turn under so long as I work the place, unless I find something else better adapted to the purpose, which red clover certainly is not. There is no more sense in denouncing crimson clover because it does not take the place of red clover as a hay crop, than there is denouncing a weeder because it is not a cultivator.

Kalamazoo Co. F. HODGMAN.

TWO SIDES TO THE QUESTION.

There is something to be said on both sides in this matter of sowing crimson clover. The editorial of our associate is true in a general sense. We do not think from our own experience in sowing crimson clover on our farm, and from our personal observation in various portions of the lower peninsula, that farmers generally can rely upon this variety of clover.

There is no doubt but what crimson clover has become more or less acclimated to this latitude, so far as one season's growth is concerned. And in fact it seems to pass the rigors of a hard winter much better than at first reported.

But the natural time to sow this

clover is in late summer or early fall. If no serious drouth intervenes, it makes a splendid growth, and this growth alone has paid fairly well when winter set in. But we find that, very generally, the seeding of August and early September meets with a serious drouth just after the plants get above the ground. This was the trouble with our seeding last year. We sowed five acres in August and had a fine growth of tiny plants in two weeks' time. A month later we lost all but about one-quarter of an acre. The plants had no roots and were killed by the end of ten days' dry hot weather.

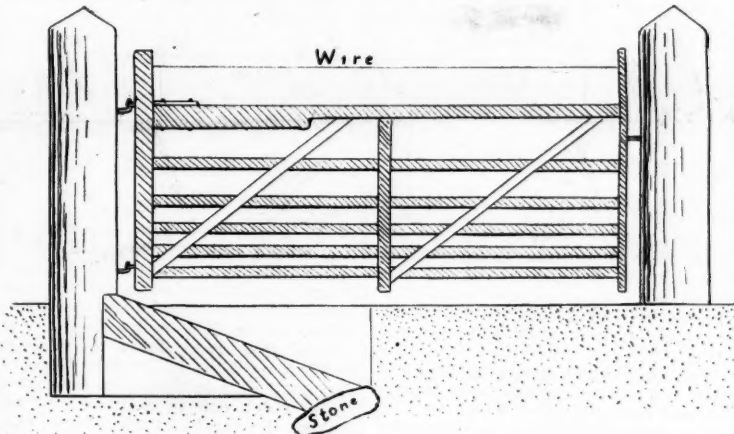
We shall sow another patch to this clover in July or August, hoping to carry the tiny plants along until the fall rains come. It is essential that the seed be sown early or the plants will make no material fall growth.

We prefer medium red clover to crimson clover, and so will the average

land available. It is the same on the average farm in the lower peninsula of Michigan. Our corn field and "potato patch" furnishes the only seeding place for crimson clover this season.

We expect to sow both field and patch to wheat in September. This is the expectation of the average farmer, consequently no clean ground is generally available for seeding to crimson clover in early fall on the average farm.

But some may say, "Why not sow crimson clover in the spring?" Because, in our case, we really had no ground available for this purpose. We wanted our wheat ground seeded down last spring, and there was nothing we could select, with an assured prospect of success, equal to medium red clover. But if we had the ground bare in the spring, that is, lying idle, and had no other available or desirable crop to grow thereon for three or four months



METHOD OF STAYING GATE POSTS.

farmer, for the simple reason that red clover can be more easily grown, and fits into our regular rotation of crops much better. The average farmer seeds down with his wheat crop. Red clover sown in early spring on wheat ground meets the conditions as they generally prevail, and the resultant clover crop for the last two seasons has been wonderfully successful and abundant. The same cannot be said of crimson clover. It is true that red clover and insect pests, but happily, and we hope permanently, that disastrous period seems to be a thing of the past.

Friend Hodgman has secured some wonderful results from his successive seeding of crimson clover, as we can testify from repeated visits to his little farm. The soil is naturally fertile, and our friend keeps it in a high state of cultivation. He is a model farmer and we visit him at every favorable opportunity.

ON A GENERAL PURPOSE FARM.

But here is the point we wish to call attend to. Our friend "farms it" in a different way from that of the general farmer. He is more of an expert gardener and fruit culturist. On this account he has more or less ground every season that can be devoted to catch crops from one season to the next. On our own farm we seldom have such

we should sow crimson clover just as soon or as early as the weather was suitable. We should not grow this for feeding purposes, but to plow under for wheat or other fall crop. There is plenty of testimony available from all portions of the country, where crimson clover is grown, showing the bad effects of trying to feed matured crimson clover to stock.

In conclusion, we believe that crimson clover has become somewhat acclimated to this latitude, but not enough so that the general farmer may depend upon the plant, in his regular crop rotation, for the purpose for which it is naturally adapted.

THE BORDEAUX MIXTURE.

Under the above head in *Farm Notes* of August 27, the last sentence of the paragraph reads: "Do not use arsenic with a lime solution, for it will surely scorch the leaves."

The word "with" should be changed to "without," and we wish to call particular attention to the misprint.

Just as we had written the above paragraph correcting the mistake, we received a letter from our friend, Dr. R. C. Kedzie, calling attention to the error.

In addition, Dr. Kedzie says: A solution of arsenic in the absence of lime will burn the leaves, and perhaps kill the plant. By using the arsenic with

lime, converting the arsenic into insoluble arsenite of lime, the danger is avoided.

I heard of a farmer who killed his orchard by spraying his trees with a solution of arsenite of soda. The soluble compounds of arsenic injure plants.

For *The Michigan Farmer*,
GATES, AND BRACING GATE
POSTS.

I was interested to read in *The Farmer* of June 18, J. E. Wing's article on bracing posts for a gateway, through a string of wire fence. Also what "Subscriber" said about a handy farm gate, in *The Farmer* of July 16. Please bear with me while I relate some of my experience with farm gates and bracing gate posts, though not up to date on all of the modern improvements.

As I operated in the rail-splitting age, I have had but little experience with wire fences. While fitting up a place in the year 1845, to make a convenient home of it, among the many things wanted were a few gates. So I had some gate stuff sawed out of excellent oak timber.

After the lumber became seasoned, I selected enough, that was free from sap, for a number of gates, then dressed and framed the parts and drove the joints together in lead and oil. We hung one of those gates at the entrance of our front yard. The lower hinge had two bearings, so that when the gates were opened either way its weight would close it. It was interesting to see school children stop as they were passing and swing back and forth on that gate. After being in use near forty years, the old gate was set aside.

To prevent a gate from sagging, so that it would have to be carried around every time it was opened, I dug a trench and braced the posts below the surface of the ground. Later I conceived the idea of getting a gatepost out of what was left of an oak tree, after all of the body had been taken away but about six feet from where a limb one foot in diameter branched out. This limb was left long enough so that it could be put into the ground as shown in the cut and serve as a brace. It required an oblong hole and a stone placed for the limb brace to rest upon.

That post proved to be a success, as years after the work of setting the post and hanging the gate was completed, the gate was held firm, in fact, it was difficult to see that the position of the post had changed. Since then I have set a number of gate posts with limb braces, and hung gates to them, some of which are in use at the present time.

After using such posts for over forty years, I am convinced that the gnarly, hard timber, where limbs branch out, has a greater power to resist the action of the elements than straight free timber possesses.

The cut represents a view of a gate

twelve feet long, four and a half feet high, hung to a post with a limb brace. By stretching a wire above the cap it will add to its protection against unruly stock.

The hinge piece is 3x6 inches. The cap 3x6 and 3x2½ inches. The latch piece 3x2½ inches. The slats and braces are 1½x3 inches. By being narrow they catch less wind and their thickness gives them more strength.

(We have seen a gatepost, set somewhat in the manner described, that had begun to decay around the knot. But upon the whole we believe our friend's plan is worth a thorough trial.)

Too much carelessness in setting gateposts, and the end posts of wire fences, has caused an immense amount of trouble, and still some farmers are not yet ready to profit from past experience.—Ed.)

For The Michigan Farmer.
WEEDS.

Since the irrevocable fiat "Cursed is the ground * * thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth," weeds have been the bane of agriculture. Verily in the sweat of his brow the farmer eats his bread.

Weeds are unsightly and pernicious; they choke the good seed, they draw the moisture and fertility of the soil, and, if unchecked, land soon depreciates in productive and marketable value. The annual loss in the United States resulting from weeds is ten millions of dollars. The labor required to raise crops is at least one-third more.

Confronted by these facts, can the husbandman be neglectful and yet be guiltless? Any person who allows harmful plants to mature on his land to scatter seed to infest the land of his neighbors, is a public enemy and should be dealt with as such.

Weed seeds are disseminated by the wind, by birds and animals, by wheat, grass and clover seeds, by water courses and railroads, are imported in packing material, seed, etc. In order to successfully combat them the agriculturist must be possessed of a knowledge of their structure, habits of growth, possibilities and best known methods of extermination.

Weeds are classified as annuals, biennials and perennials. The pigweed is a common example of an annual, the burdock of a biennial, and the buttercup of a perennial. There is a general rule which will greatly aid in efforts to eradicate all weed pests. To kill an annual cut it in blossoming time before seed matures; a biennial, like treatment the second season; a perennial, dig out root and branch.

Among the newer weeds is the Russian thistle, *Salsola Kali Tragus*, an annual more to be feared than the Canada thistle, *Cnicus arvensis*, although more readily suppressed. When the plant is young the leaves are about two inches in length and very narrow, not often exceeding an eighth of an inch; these drop and give place on the flowering branches to spines. It is sometimes mistaken for the tumbleweed, which has long leaves, but they are an inch or more wide, while the thistle leaves are very narrow. It should be cut when in early blossom, never allowed to seed, as one plant has been known to mature 20,000 seeds.

The Canada thistle should be cut as soon and as often as the leaves appear; if cut when in blossom there is sustenance in the stalk sufficient to mature seed. The Canada thistle has underground stem-like rootstocks, from which it spreads with great rapidity, plants starting at intervals along these horizontal roots. Salt or kerosene applied to the fresh cut will in time weaken these roots and no more plants will start. It requires two or more seasons of persistent treatment.

The Spanish Needle, *Bidens bipinnata*, is a low, branching annual with triparted, tapering, oval-shaped leaves and small yellow flowers. In pastures it may be suppressed by mowing before the seeds are formed. In growing crops, if pulled when young, little injury is done, but later a ball of roots form which cannot be lifted without bringing with it surrounding plants.

Prickly lettuce, *Lactuca Scariola*, is called a winter annual. It starts from seed in the fall, and matures early the following spring. The seed is carried long distances by the wind, hence it is imperative that it be cut or pulled before by any possibility seeds have ripened.

Wild lettuce, *Lactuca Canadensis*, has a deep root, a milky juice like common garden lettuce; it is freely eaten by stock, yet it usurps the place of more

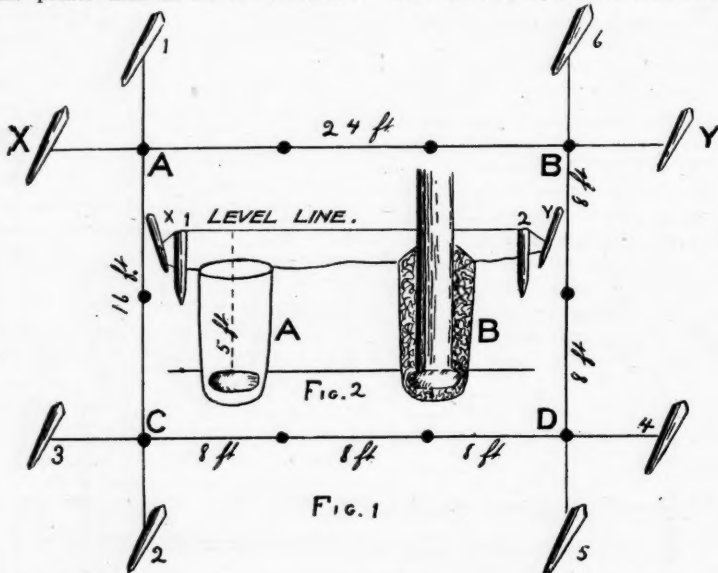
valuable forage, and should be destroyed after the method given for annuals.

Bracted plantain, *Plantago aristata*, is comparatively a new weed in the Eastern and Middle states. It grows about a foot high, has rather long, narrow, pointed, ribbed leaves and naked flower stalks, the long clusters of blossoms intermingled with short, narrow leaves. It is a biennial, and is exterminated by hand pulling in the spring.

The black or buck plantain, *Plantago lanceolata*, is one of the worst weeds. The leaves are narrow and tapering; the leafless spikes of flowers ripen a great abundance of seed. To be removed by hand digging, as it is a perennial.

Prof. Thomas Shaw, Ontario Agricultural College, recommends a spud as a better implement for weed cutting than hoe or mattock. "The length including the handle is forty-five inches, length of blade eight inches, and breadth two and one-half or three inches. The blade grows thinner toward the cutting end." It is light, weighing only a pound, and a child can use it effectively.

The horse nettle, *Solanum Carolinense*, is a perennial, and one of the vilest of weeds. Its resemblance to the potato aids in its identification.



Like the Canada thistle, it has underground stems or roots by which it enlarges year by year. These underground roots are starved out by persistent cutting for several successive seasons, as soon as the leaves appear, and applying salt or kerosene as with the thistle.

Wild carrot and wild parsnip (biennials) are too common to need description and can only be removed by deep cutting in late autumn or early spring. Their presence is especially disastrous in the vicinity of celery, as they harbor a fungus which seriously injures this vegetable.

Children may be made valuable allies in the war waged against weeds. An intelligent interest will soon be awakened if they are taught the names of the various weeds, their peculiarities of leaf, root and blossom, the power of producing seed and methods of dissemination. A collection with common and botanical names could be made more easily, and possibly as attractive as one of bugs, butterflies or birds' eggs.

SARAH E. WILCOX.

(Last year the prickly lettuce plant seemed to lose its hold in many places, and scores of farmers confidently declared to us that this plant would "pass away after awhile.")

But this season we find more of these plants in many parts of the lower peninsula that we ever before noticed in traveling through the State. Prickly lettuce is a bad weed pest, simply because so many of "us farmers" let the seed mature before cutting it down.—Ed.)

NOTES FROM KANSAS.

I notice an article on page 118 of the last issue of The Farmer on "Smut in Wheat." I have raised wheat for 30 years and have no smutty wheat. My method is to thoroughly roll the seed wheat, after soaking with water over night, in new slacked lime. The new slacked lime destroys all spores of smut, besides acting as a solvent, and by so doing acts as a fertilizer. Lime is solvent and lets loose much of the mineral properties of the soil that are

essential to the growth of the wheat.

Much is said in The Farmer about the shiftlessness of the western farmer. Mr. Editor, this is true. Many a western farmer makes his dooryard fence out of his agricultural tools, and tools which he borrowed money to purchase. He could by two or three days' labor build a shed, with straw for a roof, which would protect his tools from damage. I have seen a new reaper and a new mower stand exposed to the weather all winter. Yet this same man had borrowed the money to purchase those implements.

Cloud Co., Kansas. JOSIAH PECK.
(That's right! How many times we have seen enough damage done to tools on some farms to build a new tool house every fall on those same farms. Your plan of soaking and rolling seed wheat in fresh lime, has been tried in this country, and with fair success.—Ed.)

For The Michigan Farmer.

SETTING POSTS FOR CHEAP BUILDINGS.

I take the opportunity of sending you my plan of setting posts in mortar and stone for a building. I have explained it at some length and thought I could make it plainer by making a diagram.

Let A, B, C, D, Fig. 1, represent a

good roof and siding are put on, will last forever and be stronger than a frame building, or where the posts are only set in the ground. Most any farmer can build one himself. All the tools required are a saw, ax, hammer, square and level, and these most farmers have.

It requires but a small amount of lime. On a building 16x24 feet, with ten posts, I used only one barrel of cement and one of white lime, mixing the mortar of both kinds in about equal proportions. I used corrugated iron for a roof, which has proven very satisfactory.

Jackson Co., Mich. CLAUDE SMITH.

(This plan of setting posts is a good one in many cases. There is one thing that puzzles us: Would not the water run down the posts and settle in the cervices, after the posts shrunk in size, thus allowing moisture to remain at the foot of the post almost constantly?

Were we to erect another barrack we should try this plan of friend Smith's. Have any others tried this scheme, and with what results?—Ed.)

Ensilage Facts—How To Get Them.

It is a question if there has ever been published a book devoted to any agricultural subject that is more valuable or contains more that is directly applicable to the operations of the farm than "A Book on Silage."

It is from the pen of Prof. Woll of the Wisconsin Experiment station who is one of the most noted of the ensilage experts of the country. It covers the whole subject from the planting of the crop to the feeding of the ensilage. This excellent work is being sent out by the Silver Mfg. Co., of Salem, O., who will take pleasure in mailing a copy to all interested inquirers.

These are the people who for many years have been manufacturing the famous "Ohio" feed and ensilage cutters and fodder shredders. Their latest machine differs from their ordinary line in that it is equipped with their new spiked feed roller and traveling feed apron. These two devices add 33½ per cent. to the capacity of the machine, and at the same time save 75 per cent., by actual trial, of the labor required in handling the food.

This machine is provided with convenient levers to stop instantly the motion of the feed rolls and the traveling feed table, making them the safest machine on the market to-day. No danger to hands or arms, and no possibility of feeding hard foreign substances into the knives. The "Ohio" line embraces a number of different sized machines each the best of its kind. It will pay our readers to correspond with them before buying. Please mention that you saw this in our paper.

Don't Believe It.



Occasionally we meet a man who is doubtful as to the advantages to be derived from the use of a separator. But after a single week's trial of the SAFETY HAND SEPARATOR he becomes a separator enthusiast and remains so ever after. It's the gain in butter and the improvement in quality that does it. It will pay you to make inquiry.

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consisting of 680 acres, seven miles from railroad, convenient to schools and churches, on which no expense has been spared to make it one of the most desirable places to farm or raise stock. Fenced into different fields and pastures, through which flows a stream of never failing water. Good buildings for man and beast; 120 bearing Kieffer pear trees; a pecan orchard of 150 trees, some of which are now bearing; a mulberry orchard of sixty trees that will feed that number of hogs bountifully for three months; black and English walnuts, peaches and apples in abundance. As I am now old, and children gone, the place can be had for ten dollars (\$10.00) per acre, one-half cash, balance in easy payments.

W. H. JOHNSON, Hickory, Newton Co., Miss.

CHEAP FARMS. DO YOU WANT A HOME? We will sell you one with a small payment down, the balance on long time, a little each year. Come and see us or write.

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Croswell, Sanilac Co., Mich.

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D. P. DEWEY, Grand Blanc, Mich.

SEED WHEAT. Long Amber and No. 6, Bald White Wheat. Straight stiff straw. Heavy yielders. Price \$1.00 per bu., bags included. A. A. WOOD, Saline, Mich.

Dawson's Golden Chaff Seed Wheat for Sale. PRICE \$1.00 per Bushel. Bags free. C. G. JACKSON, Birmingham, Mich.

SEED WHEAT. Dawson's Golden Chaff Pure clean seed of either variety, 80c. per bushel. Bags 15c. A. E. ILLENDEX, Adrian, Mich.

WANTED, AT ONCE—An agent in every county, or, to right man, will give part of a state. Those acquainted with the farmers and threshers preferred. Territory must be canvassed at once. Our terms to agents are more liberal than those of any other company, and we invite comparison. For particulars address LINCOLN OIL CO., Cleveland, Ohio.

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A GREAT SEASON FOR BEEF CATTLE.

Not in years have the general conditions been more favorable to the cattle grower and feeder than the present season. General business conditions have been good, really good cattle scarce, and even the fair and common lots have been taken at good prices. The demand for preserved meats by our own and foreign governments enabled packers to handle common cattle at a profit, and the demand thus created caused an advance in values beyond what such cattle are worth under ordinary conditions. Not only this, but for the next six months, or a year, this government must continue to be a large purchaser of meats for export to foreign lands, where parts of the army are located. Beef and pork, in their various forms, are the dependence of an army in the field, and the demand for them will be heavy the coming year. Foreign nations realize that the meats furnished by the United States are the cheapest and best available, and that nowhere else can they be secured in such quantities and on such advantageous terms. American preserved meats are the main reliance of the British army and navy in an active campaign, no matter whether it be in India or Africa. At present our government is purchasing supplies of refrigerated beef in Australia for the army and navy in Manila, as it is only half the distance it would be from San Francisco. But if the army and navy now stationed there are long maintained, this will undoubtedly be changed, and such supplies will be purchased within our own borders.

Then general business conditions are very promising. There will surely be great commercial activity this fall, to make up for the partial stagnation that resulted from the war. We look for a great expansion of our trade with Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines. If trade is active, and labor well employed, which is a prime factor in the situation, there will be a good demand from the masses of the people for meats. If to this is added an increased foreign demand, then the present high range of cattle will be maintained. The chances are largely in favor of their doing so, and the cattle grower and feeder may look for another prosperous year with a reasonable degree of certainty.

So far as Michigan is concerned it is not in shape to reap as great advantages from the high prices and good demand for cattle as we could wish. The quality of the feeding stock is not what it should be. The cows on many, if not most, of the farms have been crossed with all classes of bulls, and are terribly mongrelized. It is true some efforts have been made the past year to improve the feeding qualities of their cattle by some farmers, as evidenced by the inquiry for bulls of the beef breeds; but the fact remains that the cattle of this State, from a beef standpoint, are in worse shape than they were thirty years ago. There is great need of improvement, and with present high prices for good stock, there ought to be incentive enough to start it with great energy. If our beef cattle were as good as our sheep and hogs, from the feeder's standpoint, it would be worth many thousands of dollars to the farmers of the State the coming year.

THE ORIGINAL PLOW.

The hog may be called an incarnate plow or a natural cultivator. Left to his will, he will root from sunup to sundown, from frost-in to frost-out, from corner to corner, and from center to circumference of your farm. His gristly nose will in a season do enough work to wear out a steel plow, but his nasal plow renews itself, while the steel plow loses size continually. He breaks sod. He turns over plowed soil. He muzzles and chews the dirt. He destroys bugs and worms and insects. After he has gone over a field, its soil will be found thoroughly improved by breaking, by sifting and by exposure to the air and light. A more industrious worker than the pig it would be hard to find. To say that a man "is as lazy as a hog" is to utter

a libel on the hog, especially if the man in question be a really indolent individual. It is true that the hog sleeps after eating, and it is true that man too would sleep after eating if he were as correct a hygienist as is the hog. The hog that lies and sleeps after eating is a wise animal, whether he does so because he actually reasons that it is the best thing to do, or because in so doing he is merely following an irresistible instinct. After the hog has plowed all the forenoon, he eats his dinner and then lies down to sleep. After his nap, if he be permitted to range, he is on his feet promptly and plowing again with undiminished ardor and relish. Did you ever see a hog lying down while awake, that is, a healthy hog not confined in a pen? When he lies down, he sleeps. When he arises, he goes plowing, and as a plowman and cultivator in general he is an abounding success.

PRACTICALLY INDESTRUCTIBLE.

An English scientist in a recent lecture related a fact in connection with canned meats, or "tinned" meats, as they are called in England, which seems to prove their ability to retain their good qualities indefinitely. The particular instance referred to was that of some canned mutton which had been put up 44 years, and was still in good condition at the end of that time. These tins had a long and adventurous career. In 1824 they were wrecked in the British ship *Fury*, and cast ashore with other stores on the beach at Prince's Inlet in the far north. They were found by Sir John Ross eight years afterwards in a state of perfect preservation, having passed through alarming variations of temperature annually, from 92 degrees below zero to 80 degrees above, and withstood the attacks of savage beasts and perhaps savage men. For 16 years more they lay there broiled and frozen alternately; then the English ship *Investigation* came upon the scene, and still the contents were in good condition. For nearly a quarter of a century they had withstood the climatic rigors, and some of them were brought home again. This is quite a record, and shows how much canned meats are to be relied on where supplies for a long time have to be carried. For the use of the army and navy, or in the case of cities liable to be besieged, the ease with which a large amount of food could be stored away should be taken advantage of. Then such food supplies would occupy but a small space, and are so portable and easily handled. We may expect that long years after the big Chicago packers have passed away their canned meats will serve to keep their names before the public, and the old text will be changed to "by their meats ye shall know them."

STOCK NOTES.

T. M. Southworth, of Allen, Hillsdale Co., reports the sale from his herd of Shorthorns of a White Rose cow and a Cruickshank bull. They went to J. C. Bell, of Branch County. The White Rose family comes from one of the early importations of the breed, the cow White Rose by Publicola.

James Riley, the well known breeder of Berkshires, says that we might just as well expect a good crop of corn if we plant an excellent variety in a well prepared, rich soil, and then not give it any further attention, as to suppose that our pigs will develop into fine hogs, no matter how well bred, without the proper food and attention. In fact, the work of making the fine hog is only begun at weaning time.

A liberal use of pumpkins as feed for hogs is recommended by the Southern Farm Magazine. It claims that feeding them will rid the hog of all internal parasites, regulate the kidneys, tone the bowels, add a rapid growth to the hog and put it in the best of order to resist disease. They can be fed either raw or cooked with good results. When grain is fed pumpkins should be fed somewhat sparingly, as their laxative effect carries the grain ration forward before it is digested.

It is evident that even in old-fashioned England, where everything is said to be so much better regulated than in this country, officials do not always meet the expectations of the public. A London journal complains that their board of agriculture costs over a half million dollars per annum, and all they get for it is unlimited imports of foreign live cat-

tle and fresh meat, while the British native stock is hampered by conflicting orders, bad transit service, and excessive railway charges.

An admirer of the pacer has traced its origin back to Egypt, at the time of the Pharaohs; a writer on Galloway cattle has traced their footsteps from that country through Europe to Scotland, where they settled in the district of Galloway. The whole herd must have left Scythia at that time, as no remnants have ever been discovered in that country or on the route followed; and a Detroit writer has discovered that the dachshund, a short-legged, long-bodied cur of the hound species, came originally from Egypt. Its alleged ancestors having been found in the sculptures adorning the interior of the pyramids. Of course we don't have to believe these tales without we wish to, and there is some consolation in that fact. We presume the pacer and the dachshund emigrated together, hence we find them still associated on the American continent. When a man gets a craze he is likely to make some very strong statements regarding his special fad, whether it is dogs, horses, cattle or hogs.

An admirer of the Red Polls gives his reasons for raising this breed in a letter to the Rural New-Yorker. They are as follows: "In the first place, I am compelled, in order to keep my land rich, to keep about 100 ewes with their lambs, and yearlings enough to keep the flock good. My cattle are obliged to run with the sheep while at pasture, and the Red Polls can do it and thrive. They are fine milkers, easy and persistent, making fine butter, very intelligent and docile with kind treatment, and as I give them no other, I do not know how they might be. I have made fine steers of them, fattening them with the cows and sheep, and receiving the top price of the market. They flock together like sheep; no trouble about stabling, open the door and they will do the rest except closing the stanchions, and if all are not closed it does not matter, none will be injured. They all have flesh-colored teats and rarely get sore. No other cattle that I have owned (and I have been farming 45 years for myself) can compare with them under the conditions. What more beautiful sight than a herd of them, all reds, with white switches and their bright, lively appearance."

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THE GREAT PACING MARE POCAHONTAS.

The manner in which the blood of this old-time pacing mare is coming to the front in her descendants, renders anything new connected with her breeding of great interest. Last week a correspondent of the Philadelphia Record, named B. G. Burrows, of New Jersey, sent that paper some reminiscences regarding her breeding and history. He said:

She had a remarkable history. I got it from the man who brought her out. Pocahontas belonged to a widow, who lived on a farm at Germantown, Montgomery County, Ohio, and had never been trained or on a race track. A horseman named Woodmansee, who lived at Middletown, Butler County, heard of her from parties who had encountered her on the road, when the boys of the farm were driving her to and from town, and public gatherings, when they would "brush" with anything they fell in with, always beating with comparative ease. Just at this time a horse at New Orleans, named Hero, held the championship for pacers. Woodmansee bought the mare for a reasonable price, took her home and worked her for a short time, when he accepted the challenge of Hero's owners for a race for \$10,000 a side. He took her down the river from Cincinnati on a steamboat, and he told me did not know what made her "belly" so. He gave her just as little hay as possible, and bandaged her with a canvas bandage, but still her belly increased. When he got down to the track he had the axle of the sulkey cut and a foot added to the length, to keep her hind feet out of the wheels, she "spread" so wide at every stride.

Well, she went the race, and won handily, breaking the record. In less than a month after the race she foaled the colt Tom Rolfe, as perfect a picture of horseflesh as any man ever laid eyes on. When the colt got old enough Woodmansee started training him, but he could not stand it. However, he became able to trot halves in 2:25, but, showing signs of weakness, Woodmansee ceased working him, and put him in the stud. His colts were good-looking and good driving horses, but none of them ever became remarkable for speed.

The race with Hero finished Pocahontas' racing career, as she could never get another match. There was nothing to match her with, so she was sold to a Boston man for several thousand dollars; I forget just how much. Woodmansee got up a fashionable pedigree for Tom Rolfe, although it was not known who his sire was, for the people on the farm disclaimed knowing that the mare had ever been covered; nor did they know what her pedigree was. Woodmansee, however, gave Cadmus as her sire; but I forget what horse he gave as the colt's sire, though I printed it on bills several times. The Boston man put her in the stud, and one of her first colts was Young Pocahontas, purchased by Bonner, for, I believe, \$16,000.

Mr. Wallace gives her sire as Cadmus 393, dam by Shakespeare 2223, both thoroughbreds; g. dam a road mare of unknown breeding. She is said to have been a chestnut mare, and had made a record of 2:17½ at that gait. The colt Tom Rolfe is given as sired by Pugh's Aratus, another thoroughbred. It looks as if Pocahontas and her most noted son, Tom Rolfe, belong to that long list of horses classified as of unknown breeding.

THE RESULTS OF SHOEING AND FITTING.

The following article is from a practical horse-shoer, who discusses shoeing and fitting in a letter to the Horse-shoers' Journal:

This subject of fitting is so broad, and covers so many different points, that it is impossible to treat it fully unless unlimited time and space is given to the consideration; therefore we will, for the present, confine ourselves to but one feature, viz., the hind fitting, and in conjunction with the subject also treat, in a passing way,

conformation and the necessity of studying it when attempting to fit a shoe. In shoeing a horse, any intelligent man will, before starting the operation, first study the conformation. He will look first at the limbs, and then the position the feet occupy toward the limb. Then following up his subject he will look at the position the feet occupy on the ground. He will find some limbs, I mean the lower portion, for this is our main point of observation, with long drawn pasterns, bound or curb hooked, others short in pastern and straight hooked. Some feet he will find long toed and low heeled, others the reverse, with a short, stubby toe and upright heels; again he may find the long-toed and low-heeled foot to be wired or dipped in. Then to the position. We will find some toeing out, some occupying the straight or direct position, and some, though the case is rare, decidedly pigeon-toed. Here are three distinct positions that the feet occupy on the ground. It may be asked, what has the limbs or their conformation to do with the shoe or its shape? Simply this: A shoe properly adjusted will serve the purpose of sustaining the flexor ligaments according to the demands of the case. For instance, the long-toed and low-heeled foot will, as a rule, be found on horses with long pasterns and, as may be seen in many cases, the same kind of conformation in the lower part will generally be accompanied by a bowed hock; this is a common case, and is, to some extent, to be expected when the general line of conformation is considered. Now, in such a case, it will be noticed that many fitters will shoe with a long outside mule-shaped heeled shoe. The practice is a wrong one unless other conditions demand. If we find that the long-toed, low-heeled foot looks straight ahead, we should, to be correct in our practice of fitting it, resort to the extra length on both heels, and not on the one heel alone. The latter method is injurious, inasmuch as it tends to throw the foot out of balance by forcing undue strain on the interior ligaments of the leg, and also creating a tendency to friction on the joints of the foot bones. But when it is found that the toe is long, and heel low, and the foot looks out after the manner in cow-hooked horses, then we can, with justice to the place, apply the long outside heel to the shoe, turning or nailing it outwardly as much as the case may demand. Now, in the case of the straight-pasterned and direct-looking feet, the plain necessity is to follow the lines of the foot and keep the heels of the shoe regular and even, neither being longer than the other. We will notice, in all such cases, that the limbs and feet occupy direct lines from the hock down to the very point of the toe; regularity of conformation is marked. The foot is not too long of toe, the heels are moderately high and symmetrically shaped, the pasterns are short and well knit, and the hock is straight; 75 per cent of such conformation calls for an even-heeled shoe. In interfering, this kind of conformation will generally be found to strike almost centrally of the foot, while in the other cases mentioned it is toward the heel that the damage will be done.

NOT THE RIGHT KIND.

The Chicago Horseman gives breeders of trotting horses some sensible advice in the following article, which emphasizes the position taken by The Farmer years ago, that fast scrubs and weeds, no matter how well bred, should never be used for breeding purposes. The Horseman says:

"The owner of a stallion which has been on the market for some little time, says he does not believe there are any such prices going on in the horse market as reported in The Horseman, and calls to witness the fact that he has had his stallion for sale for some months and has so far failed to find a purchaser for him. A little investigation develops the fact that there is a great deal of pedigree and very little horse offered.

"The stallion is well bred, to be sure, but undersized, ewe-necked, homely, without style, and he can neither step fast nor high. He is cat-hampered and too fine-boned, and altogether he is not worth—to work—more than a fifty-dollar note, which is all he would bring if added to the list of the geldings and sold on the open market.

"No one with any sense is going to buy such a horse for reproductive purposes, and as he is used for nothing but the lightest and most menial work, he will not bring anything more than the

price that is going for horses that perform such service in the shafts. The peculiar part of it is that this horse was begotten by a game and fast stallion out of a well-bred mare, though neither of the two were particularly good individuals, and two beasts less well suited to one another could hardly have been picked out among the entire number of standard bred horses in the land.

"The owner paid \$50 for the service of the horse that begot the stallion he is now trying to sell, and possibly that aids him in binding himself to the utter worthlessness of the animal no one else seems to want. We do not say that there is either a strong demand or good prices going for such horses. To what use can they be put?

"Breeders have learned far too severe a lesson to be fooled again into patronizing pedigreed scrubs at great cost. It is the breeder of such trash that alone is to blame because the buyers will not pay for it."

HORSE GOSSIP.

The "guideless wonder" mare Elma, has beaten the record in her class at Xenia, Ohio, where she paced a mile in 2:11½.

Marian Mills, one of the first "guideless wonders" to be exhibited, died recently. She has performed at several places in this State.

Last week the Lorillard-Beresford stable won the Peveril of the Peak Stakes, a handicap of 600 sovereigns (\$3,000), with the three-year-old colt Bridgroom II., bred in the United States, and sired by imp. Rayon d'Or.

The fact that there is a class for 2:05 pacers, and that when a horse gets out of that class his earning capacity is injured, may perhaps have something to do with the fact that a great many horses have for a long time kept their records above 2:04.—Horse World.

Never in the history of harness racing have there been so many fast 4-year old trotters as there are this season. Among the number are Directum Kelly, 2:08½; Cresceus, 2:09½; Nico, 2:09½; Battleton, 2:09½; Jupe, 2:10¼; Thorn, 2:11¼.

The Owosso Argus tells this "horse" story: A farmer by the name of Roach who lives south of the city had an occasion to stop at Gule's hill one day last week. He tied his horse to a telephone pole and the horse, being a cribber, began to devour the pole. Mr. Roach was greatly surprised on returning to find that the pole had been completely gnawed in two and fallen and broken the horse's back. The animal had to be killed.

Major Thomas A. Cruse, U. S. A., purchased 16,520 mules on the St. Louis market at a total of \$1,817,200, and a St. Louis journal says he passed upon the finest lot of mules ever seen and beat all government purchasing records in this line.

The horse October, by Nuttingham, son of Nutwood, dam Edna G., by Edmore, a son of Louis Napoleon, won two heats in the 2:17 pace at the Port Huron meeting, but broke a tendon in one of his legs. He was started again, and the result was a complete breakdown.

Lightning recently struck an oak tree in a pasture on the Lucas farm in Missouri, and killed five brood mares which had taken shelter under its branches. The mares were all thoroughbreds and in foal at the time. Two other mares were so badly injured it is feared they cannot recover.

The three-year-old black filly Mo. S. by Wildbrino, from Brown Birdie by Hooker, recently owned in Toronto, Canada, has been sold in England for \$2,100. She is a trotting-bred, high-stepping mare, and a great show animal. It is certain that trotting blood can produce this class of horses if properly bred and trained. Training is as necessary as breeding.

Arion is the first trotter with a record of 2:10 to sire a 2:10 trotter. He is nine years old, and as a two-year-old trotted to high wheels to a record of 2:10½. This performance stands by itself. It is really better than the 2:07½ of Arion at four years old to a bicycle sulky. Nico, who won a heat in a race at Rigby Park August 6, in 2:09½, is a four-year-old by Arion, out of Maggie Sultan, by Sultan.

It is reported that J. B. Haggan, of California, is seriously contemplating an auction sale of thoroughbred yearlings in England. There are over 100 fillies at the Rancho del Paso by well-

known English, American and Australian stallions, and competent judges agree that much better prices could be obtained by selling in England than in America. It will be a good thing to test the English market anyway, as it certainly looks promising.

Directum Kelly, the trotting star of the grand circuit, was bred by Monroe Salisbury of Pleasanton, Cal. He was sired by Direct, 2:05½, bred by L. H. Titus, who sold his dam, Echora, when in foal, to Mr. Salisbury. The dam of Directum Kelly was Rosa Ludwig by Anteeo, 2:16½, second dam by Lime-rick Boy, son of Ringgold, thoroughbred. Anteeo's sire was Electioneer, by Hambletonian 10, and his dam was Columbine by Gen. Benton; second dam, Columbia, by imp. Bonnie Scotland. It will be seen that Directum Kelly carries more of the blood of the thoroughbred than any other strain. The limit of this horse's speed has not yet been reached.

Brood mares should have all the well cured hay that they will eat when fed regularly three times a day, says the Horse Breeder. If, in addition to this, they are fed not less than six quarts of the best oats, there will be but little danger of getting them too fat. Where there is one brood mare in the country injured by overfeeding, there are many that are actually suffering from lack of nourishment. Those who cannot afford to feed liberally had better reduce their stock or go out of business altogether.



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LOSS TO FEEDERS ON BUCKY LAMBS.

Why breeders of lambs or farmers who raise them for market will persist in not castrating them, but raise and ship them to market in the bucky condition that a large proportion of the receipts arrive in, is beyond the comprehension of the average salesman. The discrimination that buyers make against this class of stock almost invariably amounts to from 25 to 50 cents per cwt., to say nothing of the haggling that has to be done to sell them, if at all, for there are times that buyers will not have them at any price, when they can fill their orders with ewe and wether lots, and even handy sheep or yearlings are often taken in preference. Then again if they were properly altered at the right time, which is but little trouble, compared to the benefits derived thereby, the increase in weight and quality, to say nothing of the advance in price, would well repay the trouble. It is safe to say that hundreds of thousands of dollars are annually lost to the farming community, simply by the careless neglect of these producers in this respect, to say nothing of the extra effort that salesmen have to make in order to sell the bucky stock.

We cut the above paragraph from the Buffalo Mercantile Review to call the attention of the feeders of this State to the serious losses arising from neglect to perform the necessary operation of castration in lambs intended for market. The number offering in the Buffalo market is unusually large. Shippers fight shy of such lambs because they are likely to be discounted more severely as they go farther east. We think in some instances these lambs have been held for breeders, but later their owners decided to ship them to market, and this will account for their condition. The lamb intended for a feeder should be castrated at from ten days to two weeks old. It will not injure the lamb at that age, nor retard its growth. If put off to a later period the effect upon the lamb is much more injurious, and certain changes in the lamb have taken place that the operation cannot then overcome. We refer to the thickening of the neck and the growth of the horns. With these bucky characteristics the fact that they are castrated or not has little effect upon values. They are sure to be heavily discounted. Then such lambs never feed so well, are not so contented as if castrated earlier. To send such lambs to market with others that are all right will result in their being sorted out and sold alone, or the whole lot will be discounted because they are included. The advice of the Review is eminently sound, and feeders should bear it in remembrance.

A FINE WOOL IN DEMAND.

Under this heading one of our Australian exchanges, The Farm and Dairy, discussing the question of crossbreeding the flocks of that country, and the effect it has had upon the wool-growing industry, says:

"If something like this were done there would not be, as at present, a quantity of wool in demand that Australia is not producing. Its greatest output is of merino wool, and some buyers at present in Sydney are not touching it. Wool is grown, or should be grown, for manufacturing purposes, and the demand is the test of all values. The Bradford (Eng.) Chamber of Commerce at this moment is experimenting with the Downs' wool of English sheep, because buyers are at a loss to get a good merino wool. Our average merino wool they find straight, wiry, and wanting in flexibility so essential to their trade. They want a wool to spin a 60's, and they are not looking to us to supply it. This is a matter for attention. Our breeders don't pay enough attention to the district for which the various breeds are adapted. Fine wool breeds do excellently on our high lands, the sheep are good foragers and don't mind putting themselves about to get feed and thus put on wool. Adverting to this phase of the subject, Messrs. J. C. Young and Co., in their annual wool circular, say that although Australia is naturally the home of the pure merino, a noteworthy feature of the past season was a marked revival in the demand for the very finest Clothing Wool, and the comparative neglect with which Buyers treated all but the very best Crossbreeds. It would appear only too probable that in many instances Crossbred Wools have been raised on country and under climatic conditions totally unfit for their successful growth. That here and there in New South Wales, situa-

ble country and climate may be found for the successful breeding of Crossbred Sheep, admits of no doubt whatever. This is a point well worth considering."

That disposition of the flocks to grow straight and wiry fleeces has been met and conquered by Samuel McCaughey, of Coonong, by the introduction of American Merino blood in his immense flocks. He not only produces the highest quality of wool, but his rams sell at enormous prices, and he carries off two-thirds of the prizes in the Merino classes he exhibits in. Mr. McCaughey keeps a stud flock of American Merinos, so he always has rams to breed on his own flock as well as to sell. He is also a regular purchaser of the best rams at sales of American imported sheep.

SHEEP SCAB: ITS NATURE AND TREATMENT.

This is the title of a bulletin just issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. It is the most elaborate essay yet published on this disease, and includes a history, description and treatment, with a criticism on the different applications and dips used as a remedy for the disease. We give the following extract from this bulletin:

The disease commonly called sheep scab is the mange, or scabies, of the sheep. It is a contagious skin disease caused by a parasitic mite. This disease is one of the oldest known, most prevalent, and most injurious maladies which affects this species of animals. It has been well known for many centuries, and references to it are found in the earlier writings, including the Bible, where we find, in Leviticus, xxii: 22, the use of scabbed sheep forbidden in sacrifices. Some think that the mite which causes the disease was known to Aristotle, 322 B. C.; but it appears that Wichmann, writing in 1786, was one of the first authors of modern times to suspect that sheep scab was of the same nature as the scabies of man. Wichmann held the erroneous view, however, that both diseases were produced by the same parasite.

The prevailing opinion concerning scab prior to and during the first years of the present century was that it was caused by some special condition of the sheep's system, a "humor of the blood," which led to a skin eruption. The parasites were in some cases known and recognized, but they were supposed to be either an accidental occurrence or to have arisen by spontaneous generation as a result of the disease, and because the affected skin offered conditions favorable to their development and existence.

As a result of diligent research, certain investigators reached the conclusion that the malady was due directly to the mites which were found inhabiting the diseased parts of the skin. Their opinion was not at once adopted, however, but, on the contrary, met with strong opposition from those who held that scab was due to a diseased condition of the blood and from others who held a modified view to the effect that the mites carried poisonous or diseased material from one animal to another and in that manner communicated the disease. The errors and uncertainties which came down to us through centuries of controversy were finally and for all time dispelled by conclusive experiments upon animals made during the first half of this century. It was shown that scab does not develop and can not be produced without the parasites. The complete life cycle of the mites was studied and demonstrated from the eggs to the adult parasites. It was shown that mites are always the offspring of ancestors, the same as are the larger animals, and it has in later years come to be admitted that there is no such thing known as spontaneous generation of any living thing under any circumstances. The demonstration was repeatedly made that the disease always developed if mites were taken from diseased sheep and placed upon healthy ones, and that diseases of the skin resembling scab are not contagious unless the mite is present.

Questions are still frequently asked, by persons not conversant with the investigations of the subject, as to whether the scab is the cause of the mite or the mite is the cause of the scab, and also whether the disease can develop without the presence of the scab mite. The investigations which have been referred to answer these questions and also show that the treatment must consist in external applications for the destruction of the para-

sites and not internal remedies to "purify the blood."

Is Scab Hereditary?—An impression has arisen among some sheep raisers that scab is hereditary. This impression is, however, erroneous. Scab is no more hereditary than are sheep ticks or sheep lice, for the parasites which cause it live on the external surface of the body and do not reach the womb. It is possible, however, for a lamb to become infected from a scabby mother at the moment of birth or immediately after. Lambs are occasionally born with white spots on their skin, and this possibly has given rise to the idea that scab is hereditary.

Losses in Home Industry.—The losses from sheep scab have been and are still very severe in most sheep raising countries. They are due to the shedding of the wool, the loss of condition, and the death of the sheep.

Although laws were made for the control of the disease as early as the beginning of the eleventh century, general ignorance in regard to its nature and proper treatment has prevented the successful administration of such laws even to the present day. The disease exists in most of the countries of Europe, and also in Asia and Africa, and until recently in Australia. Most civilized countries now control the disease to a certain extent, and limit the losses by the enforcement of stringent sanitary regulations; but the extent of its prevalence is nevertheless surprising. It is a disease not difficult to cure and eradicate, and an accurate knowledge of its characteristics with attention to details are all that is needed to secure this result.

In the United States some sections have been overrun with sheep scab, and many persons engaged in the sheep industry have been forced to forsake it because of their losses from this disease. It is probable that in its destruction of invested capital, sheep scab is second only to hog cholera among our animal diseases. The large flocks of the Plains and Rocky Mountain region and the feeding stations farther east have suffered severely and are constantly sending diseased animals to the great stock yards of this country. As a consequence of this marketing of affected sheep, the stock yards are continually infected, and any sheep purchased in these markets are, unless properly dipped, likely to develop the disease after they are taken to the country for feeding or breeding. There is in this way a constant distribution of the contagion, and thousands of persons who know little of its nature or the proper methods of curing it find that they have introduced it upon their premises.

Losses in Export Trade.—In addition to the direct losses in wool, in flesh, and in the lives of our sheep, we have suffered immensely in our foreign trade because of the prevalence of this disease. Great Britain appears to have been the first country to prohibit live sheep coming from the United States, by an order issued in 1879. Upon representations that there was no foot-and-mouth disease in the United States this order was rescinded in 1892, but only to be again enforced in 1896 on account of the many scabby sheep sent abroad by our exporters. Our sheep are consequently slaughtered on the docks where landed, the market being restricted and the prices much less favorable than would otherwise be obtained. The markets of Continental Europe have been entirely closed to American sheep, as even the privilege of slaughtering at the landing places is denied. For a long time it was impossible to send our pure-bred sheep to Australia, where there is a demand for them for breeding purposes, because the Australian law required them to be transhipped and quarantined in British ports, and the British authorities declined to grant this privilege. Arrangements have since been made for the direct shipment of sheep to Australia, if accompanied by the certificate of a veterinarian appointed by the Australian authorities.

On the whole, it is seen that the existence of this disease in our flocks has prevented the development of our export trade in many directions, and has caused no end of trouble and loss to our exporters.

Sheep scab is a strictly contagious disease.

Common Sort.—Common sheep scab is caused by that species of mites technically known as "Psoroptes communis." Parasites of this species cause scab in horses, cattle, sheep, goats, and rabbits; but for each of these species of animals there appears to be a distinct variety of this parasite. Al-

though it is more or less difficult to distinguish between these varieties, they differ somewhat in size, and it is found that the Psoroptes communis of the sheep does not cause scab of the horse, ox, or rabbit; nor, on the other hand, does the Psoroptes communis of the horse, ox, or rabbit cause scab of the sheep. Naturalists, therefore, distinguish the parasite of sheep scab by the name "Psoroptes communis var. ovis."

The parasite of this disease is one of the larger mites, and is quite easily seen with the naked eye. The adult female is about one-fortieth inch long and one-sixtieth inch broad; the male is one-fiftieth inch long and one-eighth inch broad. These mites are discovered more readily and more clearly on a dark than on a light background, and for that reason the crusts from the affected skin are often placed upon black paper and kept in the sunshine for a few moments in order to reveal the parasites crawling about.

The psoropt inhabits the regions on the surface of the body which are most thickly covered with wool; that is, the back, the sides, the rump, and the shoulders. It is the most serious in its effects upon sheep of any of the parasitic mites, and it is the cause of the true body scab.

Other Forms.—Sheep are also affected with three other forms of scab, likewise caused by parasitic mites. One of these is the sarcoptic scab (head scab, or black muzzle), which is limited almost entirely to the head, and is caused by the mite known as the Sarcoptes scabiei var. ovis. The second is the symbiotic scab (foot scab), which affects the limbs, scrotum, and udder, and is caused by the "Chorioptes communis var. ovis." Lastly may be mentioned an extremely rare affection, the so-called follicular, or demodectic, scab, affecting the eyelids, caused by a mite known as "Demodex folliculorum var. ovis."

The sarcoptic, symbiotic, and demodectic forms of scab are with sheep mild diseases compared with common scab, and appear to be rather rare.

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Grange Department.

Our Motto:—"The farmer is of more consequence than the farm, and should be first improved."

Address all correspondence for this department to
KENYON L. BUTTERFIELD,
AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, - - MICH.
News from Michigan Granges is especially solicited.

To Correspondents.—Please do not forget to report the results of the discussion in your Grange on the August topic of "Experiment Stations."

To Lecturers.—Please do not forget to have your Grange discuss the September topic of "Farm Life."

GRANGE NEWS.

POSTAL JOTTINGS.

Sears Grange, No. 628, held a picnic Aug. 31st, most of the Patrons being there. We had a short program, after which we enjoyed a bountiful repast and social intercourse.—Lecturer.

Clayton Grange, No. 694—Genesee Co.—Aug. 5th first two degrees were conferred on two candidates. Held meetings regularly and conferred degrees at each meeting all through the harvest season.—Geo. W. Bloss.

Porter Grange, No. 427, held a very pleasant meeting last Saturday evening. The third and fourth degrees were conferred on two members, after which a bountiful feast was served. Grange is doing well and has recently purchased an organ.—Lydia Trattles.

Rome Grange, No. 293—Lenawee Co.—conferred the first and second degrees on three candidates on the evening of Sept. 3rd. An invitation has been sent to Onsted Grange to meet with us Sept. 17th and confer the third and fourth degrees.—Dora L. Dowling, Cor.

Raisin Grange, No. 214—Lenawee Co.—The new hall is nearly completed. We intend to hold our next meeting in it. At our last meeting first and second degrees were conferred on two candidates and a committee was appointed to purchase furniture for the new hall.—N. M. B.

North Adrian Grange, No. 721—Lenawee Co.—had a good attendance at its meeting September 2. Decided to send for a bill of groceries. Just received our timothy seed. The ladies have furnished the money to plaster the hall, which will soon be commenced.—Mrs. H. R. Ladd, Cor.

Whitney Grange, No. 513—Tuscola Co.—is in a prosperous condition. Members are taking advantage of the contracts. Held a special meeting September 1st to initiate candidates in first and second degrees; expect to confer third and fourth degrees at next meeting. Preparing for the annual picnic.—N. W.

Banner Grange, No. 640—Ionia Co.—went to the Ionia Co. Grange picnic Aug. 24 and heard an excellent address by Hon. Aaron Jones, master of National Grange. He told the people they could not make more money by working more hours or by practicing closer economy, but by finding a better method of selling.—Cor. •

Kent Co.'s Sixteenth Grange.—Aug. 27th Brother Saunderson, deputy for Kent Co., reorganized the County Line Grange of Newaygo Co., bringing it into Sand Lake, Kent Co., with a charter membership of 27. Our county now has 16 Subordinate Granges; three of these have been organized this year. The outlook for the County Line Grange is the brightest, having officers that will do credit to any position.—Cor.

Ashland Grange, No. 545—Newaygo Co.—Aug. 24 there was a nice attendance and we received one application for membership. The subject discussed was "Benefits derived from sending milk to the creamery." Brother Will Carter gave a report of his visit to the Agricultural College. Our Grange is buying oil for the Patrons by the barrel and selling it out, the profit going into the treasury. We think it a very good plan. Have also bought our binder twine for two years at a great profit.—Miss Minnie A. Brink, Sec.

Union Grange, No. 97—Branch Co.—The harvest festival given in honor of Ceres proved to be a decided success. The interior of the hall was made attractive by tasteful decorations in white and yellow, assisted by the use of flowers, grains and the stately corn. At one end of the room was erected a white and yellow bower where Ceres,

the goddess of the harvest, presided. The program, which consisted of music, recitations, essays and exercises, was well rendered and appropriate for the occasion. The ready applause of the audience showed their appreciation of the effort put forth to give a pleasant evening's entertainment.—F. Ella Kilbourn.

Paw Paw Grange—Van Buren Co.—has begun a movement toward an autumn and winter campaign and the prospects for a revival of Grange zeal is encouraging. September 29 and 30 it is to hold a farmers' institute and an autumn festival. The program will cover a variety of topics and the Grange, as an organization, will be kept in the foreground. The festival is to consist of the exhibition of the products of the soil for honorary premiums. Flora, Ceres and Pomona will each have her division. Art, fine needle work, pastry, canned, dried and preserved fruits, as well as curiosities will be exhibited. Other features will be added as time goes on. Dairying and its products will hold a large place. On the evening of the 29th Mrs. Cora H. Martin, of Lansing, who has been to the Sandwich Isles, will give a lecture of her observations there, entitled "The Crossroads of the Pacific."—Cor.

PICNICS AND POMONAS.

EMMETT POMONA.

Emmett County Pomona Grange held its first meeting with Pioneer Grange at the Friendship hall, Aug. 26. After dinner an open meeting was held and an excellent program rendered. Addresses on the work of the Grange were made by Brothers Bennett and Swift. The fifth degree was conferred on six candidates. It was voted to hold an exhibit at Harbor Springs the first Tuesday in October in case there is no county fair. The next meeting of the Pomona Grange will be with Ely Grange, Oct. 20.—F. W. Miles.

VAN BUREN POMONA.

Van Buren Co. Pomona met in regular session Sept. 27 with Decatur Grange. At an early hour members began coming and soon a large number were present. A morning session of routine business was held, after which Decatur Grange became practically the host and hostess, and invited their guests to a sumptuous dinner. At 1:30 the gavel fell and the regular work was given into the management of our very capable lecturer, Mrs. Ionia Charles, who presented a fine program of music and papers on practical subjects. These papers were discussed, as long as time would permit, and so earnest were they that it was difficult for the lecturer to lead them from the discussion of one to the reading of another. Four papers covering a variety of topics were presented. After these a movement to secure a county Grange fire insurance company was considered and a committee appointed to look into the matter thoroughly and report.—O. J. C. W.

KENT COUNTY GRANGE PICNIC.

One of the most enjoyable events of the season was the Kent County Grange picnic held in the spacious grove of Wm. Young, at Silver Lake, Friday, Aug. 26. The aesthetic features of the place were greatly enhanced by the beautiful decorations of fruits, flowers, evergreens, bunting and numerous folds of Old Glory on the speaker's stand, made by Silver Lake Grange.

In spite of the busy fruit season nearly every one of the fifteen Granges in the county was represented, although some drove over 20 miles and back again at night. The grove was full of carriages and it is estimated that fully 1,200 people were on the grounds.

Mr. Moore, of Canaan, addressed the audience in the forenoon on the subject of "Books and Papers in Our Homes." He thought he could often judge largely of the character of the inmates of the home by the books and papers he found lying on the shelf and table, and his plea was for pure literature and more of the high class literature than is usually found.

Bro. Aaron Jones, the Worthy Master of the National Grange, was the speaker for the afternoon, and he said this was the largest audience he had addressed during the five meetings he had attended in the State. Only a few of his many inspiring thoughts were specially noted, among which were the following: "The Grange, from the Pacific coast to the Atlantic strand, never was stronger before; more Granges have been organized and re-organized during the last seven months

than in the same period for 15 years; and not only an increase in number of Granges but more dues have been paid, and double the amount of supplies have gone out from the State secretaries' offices, and the grand old commonwealth of Michigan is holding her own in the race. The Grange has been in existence 31 years and has become a pretty sprightly, pretty active, pretty strong and pretty vigorous youth. One of the most serious objections to farm life, that of isolation and lack of sociability, has been obviated by the Grange; and the crowning glory of the order is that woman was admitted on an equality with man, and to her refining and softening influence is largely due the success of the order. No other order has had such vast opportunities for bringing the people together for sociability. The feeling of jealousy which exists between the east and the west, the north and the south, becomes obliterated when the people of these sections become members of this order. A great manufacturer has admitted that the greatest problem of his business is, not how to keep his employees profitably employed, nor how to economically buy the immense amount of material required, but how to sell the completed article; and this is the great problem of the present and the future which confronts every farmer. Every Grange should take up and study the question how to make the products of the farm more profitable. As the Grange has ever been untiring in her efforts to aid the farmer socially, intellectually and financially, so she will ever continue to be."

The program was interspersed with music from different Grange choirs and with recitations. Before the afternoon program was taken up everyone took an active part in the disposal of the contents of the well filled lunch baskets and thus verified the statement that those exercises most enjoyed are the ones in which all take part.—Sec.

WESTERN POMONA GRANGE.

Western Pomona Grange held a meeting with Trent Grange August 25 and 26. Trent Grange is called the banner Grange of Western Pomona's jurisdiction, it having a membership of about 120 and a large and commodious hall well furnished. The hospitality of its members was tried and found perfect, for their spacious dining hall seating about 70 was filled and refilled, the tables loaded each time to their utmost capacity with viands fit for a king.

The first subject discussed, "What will be the probable effect of the Spanish war upon the agricultural interests of this country," was led by Bro. John Wilde, the conclusion being that no direct benefit will accrue to the agriculturists of this country except by opening the markets of conquered Spanish possessions to American agricultural products.

"Character Building" was the subject of an essay by Sister Thos. Wilde. The mother's influence in the kitchen and the proper preparation and mastication of food were considered important factors in molding the character of the young.

"Resolved, That to obtain the best results the farmer should sell his crops as soon as harvested," was presented by Bro. S. Stauffer, who took the negative side of the question, perishable products excepted.

"Some recent achievements of the Grange in Michigan" was led by Bro. Mansor Smith, who mentioned the social and educational advantages of the Grange and told of the work of the legislative committee of the State Grange.

Sister Mattie Kenedy gave a fine talk on the subject, "Is labor necessary for the building of good character?" "What is the duty of the farmer in regard to the temperance question?" was led by Bro. Thos. Wilde. Farmers should not keep hard cider or wine in their cellars; should in all cases abstain from alcoholic drinks, and use their influence against their use.

The above program was interspersed with fine music and recitations and a dialogue entitled "Uncle Jeff." The next meeting will be held at Tallmadge October 20 and 21.—Sec'y.

THE SEPTEMBER TOPIC.

What is the Present Trend of Thought in Regard to Farm Life?

BY WALLACE E. WRIGHT.

How can farming be made more of a profession and less of a refuge for those who consider themselves unfitted for any other profession? How can the farm and home be made more attractive and at the same time reasonably profitable? And how can we enjoy

all the social and educational advantages that those in the so-called professions do, are some of the thoughts of the up-to-date, progressive farmer.

First, what is the trend of your own individual thoughts? In what special line of farming are you most interested? Life is too short to become an expert in all professions, or even in all lines of successful farming. We must decide for ourselves just what we will do. If there is any particular branch of farming that you especially delight in, study, experiment, converse with those who have been successful in that particular line of work, and when you decide what you want to do, do it. Start as you can afford to. Talk of your profession, advocate your calling in preference to other lines of business. Tell of your successes, and don't bore your friends and especially your family with your reverses. Other professions have to meet them. Advertise your profession by word, deed and action. Believe in your own heart that you are as well off as men in other professions; "you surely are," and then your wife and children will enter into the same spirit and you will not only be happy yourself but will have a happy and contented family on the farm.

The constant envy of our city cousins and the thought of "What can I do to get off the farm?" has been the trend of thought that has made a financial as well as a social wreck of many otherwise happy homes on the farm. More progress in the science of farming as a profession and more influence favorable to social equality of farmers and their families with other professions has been brought about through the influence of the Grange in the last twenty-five years than through all other sources for one hundred years before.

The thorough business man knows comparatively little of any profession other than his own, while the farmer is expected to have a general knowledge of everything. Now the trend of thought of the farmer should be to let the merchant, the manufacturer, the tradesman, the lawyer, the doctor and those engaged in all other professions, attend to their chosen fields of labor, and we attend strictly to our own, having the same pride in ours that they have in theirs, without envy on our part, striving at all times to cultivate all the finer qualities of our natures. All good sensible people are ready to recognize true worth, whether found on the farm, in the workshop or in the city.

We are often in error ourselves in imagining that people in other walks of life "feel themselves above us," as we term it. We should educate ourselves to be genteel and courteous to everybody, and then as our true worth is learned it will be recognized. A common everyday farmer can be as much of a gentleman as a millionaire banker or a sleek and successful merchant or business man if he will. The hearts of these latter are no larger, their capabilities many times no greater, but their environments have been different and their advantages greater.

The trend of our thoughts should be toward the elevation of our calling to a profession in deed as well as in name. We should cultivate every virtue that makes men and women better. Verily we live in an age of progression and we farmers must be wide awake and ready to move with the procession or we will be lost in the shuffle.

Branch Co.

What Advantage Has Farm Life Over That of Other Callings?

BY N. P. HULL.

To my mind the one great advantage of farm life is its independence. The politician, preacher, doctor, jurist, merchant, teacher, and artisan must depend for their success largely upon other people's estimate of them. They must please others, which is sometimes an easy matter and sometimes it is very discouraging and disheartening, especially when one has done his best and then has been unjustly and cruelly criticised.

The farmer, on the other hand, is lord of his acres and is free to assert his personality ever so aggressively if he so desires. His time is wholly his own and he is perfectly free to use it as his judgment or his pleasure shall prompt him. His work is such that he is wholly free from restraint. He is author of his own methods, which he is free to change or abolish at will, and if he makes mistakes, his mistakes affect no one but himself. In short, a farmer, tilling his own farm with his own teams and tools and depending only upon nature, is nearest to a free and independent man of anyone in this world.

Since I have been a farmer there has

never been a time in this country when we could not raise for ourselves an abundance and a variety of grains, meats, and vegetables. We hear farm work spoken of as drudgery, but in what other calling is there the variety of work that there is on the farm? With our improved machinery we go so quickly and easily from sowing, planting and cultivating to harvesting, gathering and marketing that to the husbandman interested in his work, it seems as though the summer had gone all too quickly. To be sure, it is work, but he who does not work misses the greatest advantage that life offers.

Our work in the open air tends to develop a splendid physical manhood which makes work a pleasure, and through the winter we have a great deal of leisure time, so that there are no good reasons why a farmer should not be as well informed as any class of men.

THE FUTURE OF OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

Paper read by Mrs. S. Ramsdell at a meeting of Kent Co. Grange held at Silver Lake.

Much has been both said and written of the future of our boys and girls, and it is no wonder, when we consider the responsibility they will surely have to assume. For it will be but a few years at the most before our burdens, our cares, our sorrows and our joys will be transmitted to our boys and girls. Hence arises the question, are they or will they be prepared to assume them?

I answer, yes. For as everything God has created from the smallest mite to objects of the most gigantic size are controlled and regulated by Him and made to be subservient to their special sphere of usefulness, so will He aid and direct the fathers and mothers of to-day in training our boys and girls in such a manner that they will be fully prepared to fulfill the mission in life He designed them for.

Yet the present demands the most strenuous efforts of every father and mother in aiding the young to realize how much their success in the future depends upon the work of to-day. Let us aim to teach them to be considerate, for our boys and girls of to-day have a desire to rush onward; they want to gain the highest pinnacle of either fame or fortune as their inclinations may lead them, at one bound; they are not content to plod along at the slow gait of father and mother.

But my boy or girl, consider well the mountains of obstacles you have got to surmount, then be moderate in the ascent, trying each step before trusting your whole weight upon it; see that they are firmly upheld and supported by truth, justice and morality, for platforms made of such planks never break or bend.

You, my young friends, may take a step backward, but the stairs will remain the same and you may gather more strength and courage for the next attempt.

But "how slow" did you say? Ah! my young friends, it is of the future we are writing. Keep ever in view the life of usefulness for which you are preparing, the record you are making for yourselves, the responsibility that rests upon you to prepare for any honorable work assigned you.

Do not, like the rider of a wheel who glides past the swiftest horse and leaves him far in the rear, glide by the admonitions of those who are older and by experience, at least, are better prepared to judge what the future may bring forth. Do not be hasty in judging others, for the world at large hath need of charity. Be ever ready and willing to extend words of commendation and praise to all deserving ones, and to the erring ones words of forgiveness and love.

Only \$1.85 To Grand Rapids.

The Detroit & Milwaukee division of the Grand Trunk Ry. system will run another of its popular cheap excursions, Detroit to Grand Rapids, on Sunday, Sept. 11th, at the extremely low rate of \$1.85 for the round trip. Special train will leave Detroit, Brush St. depot 7 a. m., Gratiot Ave. 7:05, Milwaukee Jet. 7:20; train reaches Grand Rapids about 12 noon; return leaves at 7 p. m., giving seven hours in the Valley City. Tickets on sale at the City Office, 84 Woodward Ave., Brush St. Depot, Gratiot Ave., and Milwaukee Jet. Remember, \$1.85 for the round trip.

Oddfellows Excursion to Boston via Michigan Central.

On Sept. 16th, 17th and 18th tickets will be sold to Boston via the Michigan Central at one fare for the round trip, good for return leaving Boston not later than Sept. 30th, on account of the Sovereign Grand Lodge meeting of the above order. Full information to be obtained by addressing Jos. S. Hall, M. P. A., M. C. R. R., Detroit.

Veterinary Department.

CONDUCTED BY DR. W. C. FAIR.

Advice through this department is free to our subscribers. Each communication should state history and symptoms of the case fully, also name and address of the writer. The initials will only be given. When an answer is requested by mail it becomes private practice, and a fee of one dollar must accompany the letter.

Quarter-crack.—Seven-year-old horse has quarter-crack. I am unable to use him, he is so lame. The crack is far back, where I thought it would not cause lameness. A. W. M., Wauseon, Ohio.—Take pressure off heel, cut through hoof at right angles to crack at top of hoof and apply a light blister.

Warts on Neck.—Four-year-old mare has two warts on neck. I tried lard, but it did no good. M. A. B., Bay City, Mich.—Remove them with a knife and apply iodoform to wounds once a day.

Lice on Dog.—My spaniel dog has thousands of lice on ears and back. H. G., Detroit, Mich.—Apply kerosene; allow it to remain on for ten minutes, then wash it off with warm water. Use tar soap. Do the same thing over again twice a week until the lice and nits are dead.

Ringbone.—Seven-year-old horse has a ringbone on left hind leg of one year's standing. He is very lame, so much so that I am ashamed to drive him. W. K., Hillsdale, Mich.—Remove the shoe and blister with caustic balsam once every ten days until he is well. If you keep him in stable make the floor of stall soft, in order that he may not jar the joint in fighting flies, etc.

Stocking.—Mule stocks while standing in stable, mostly in hind limbs. A short drive takes swelling down. I turned her out. One leg is all right; the other is badly swelled. O. K. C., Kenton, Mich.—Give one dram iodine potash three times a day in feed or water. Let her run in pasture or work her moderately.

Heaves.—I have a mare ten years old that has had heaves for nearly four years. She does light work all right and keep in good flesh and spirits, but blows badly. A. W. K., Coldwater, Mich.—Wet feed with lime water. Give one dram Fowler's solution arsenic three times a day. Very little bulky food; more grain and less hay is the way to feed her.

A Grand Cheap Trip To Boston.

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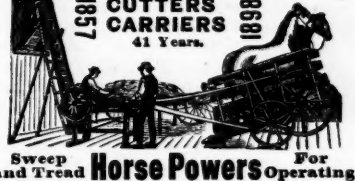
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Horticultural.

For The Michigan Farmer.

RASPBERRY NOTES.

After fruiting a number of varieties of raspberries the past season, I consider the following to be among those which can be depended on to give the best results:

Eureka has given excellent satisfaction as an early large berry. It ripened with and a trifle ahead of Palmer this season. Being much larger than Palmer, it is more satisfactory than the latter. One-year hills of the Eureka were heavily loaded with fruit. This variety never grows as many canes as most other kinds, hence there is no need of thinning them. One peculiarity of this variety, it does not grow as large a tip or plant in the same length of time as most other varieties, but it is one of the surest plants we have to grow. If fresh plants are used, and a careful hand sets them in well-prepared soil, with good cultivation, the planter need lose scarcely any plants.

Kansas. This variety is the only black-cap that has crowded the Eureka pretty hard for first place as a market variety, being a trifle later in ripening (only a couple of days). It is one of the best varieties of early black-cap to pick in the afternoon to keep over night for early market, as it does not "tarnish" or lose its jet-black gloss like the Ohio, for instance, after standing in the market a short time. It is a good plant-grower, canes very healthy, and stands the freezing in winter well.

For a medium variety, I like the Conrath much better than Ohio, and am discarding the Ohio in favor of the Conrath. It is a nicer berry, and stands the drouth much better and is very prolific.

For a late variety, the Gregg still holds its own, although in some locations the Nemaha does nearly as well, and is probably a hardier cane, but my observation with the Nemaha is that it has a choice of soil. On a gravelly loam it has fruited the best, and even went ahead of the Gregg, but for all kinds of soil, the Gregg still has a preference.

For a purple canning berry, the Schaffer and Columbian prove to be the best. Both are strong-growing kinds. I am of the opinion that in time the Columbian will take the place of Schaffer in some localities, as the cane of the former is healthier and freer from anthracnose than the latter, and the berry is a little firmer, and the quality a little better, but there is some difference of opinion in regard to quality, some liking the Schaffer, with its tartness, better than the Columbian.

If I was to choose only one variety of red raspberries, it would be the Cuthbert, although there may be others that are a little more hardy; but if not manured too heavily, I have always found it hardy enough to carry a good crop of bright scarlet berries through to the last picking.

CHARLES NASH.

For The Michigan Farmer.

OUR STRAWBERRY GARDEN.

No. 1.

Contrary to our calculations, that new plan of mulching that we spoke of in The Farmer of May 14th was only a partial success, although to the best of our ability we did our part. Beginning April 12th, we gave the patch frequent cultivation, stirring the soil to the depth of one inch until about June 5, or just before the berries began to ripen, when we applied a mulch of straw to the paths. All the mulch we used around the plants was the slight covering of manure that had been applied the fall and winter previous, and this proved to be insufficient to protect the surface from the sun's heat. Our intention was to have used green clover for mulch, but as there was only about a ton and a half on our two acres, we didn't have the heart to use it for that purpose.

We can hardly say that our method was a success, although keeping the paths cultivated was better than to have left the paths bare, yet a heavy mulch of straw applied during the fall and early winter would have been better, as this would have given time for

the straw to become somewhat rotted, and in this condition it best serves its purpose. One trouble that we find in mulching just before the berries ripen is that the work must be done right in a busy season, which is very inconvenient, to say the least. With hill culture we could cultivate the entire surface of the bed, and then apply a mulch just before picking. This method would then undoubtedly give earlier berries of a fine quality and of large size.

From our patch of one and a quarter acres we picked 190 bushels, which netted us about 85 cents per bushel, which, although not a large sum, was better than leaving them on the vines. Now, \$160 may seem to be quite a sum to make from one and a quarter acres, but when the amount of work that was put upon those berries is taken into consideration, the fruit business does not seem to be quite so much of a bonanza as many believe. For instance, during the picking season, which lasted fifteen days, myself and team were kept busy caring for and selling the fruit. This work was worth at least \$30. Then, I had to hire a man with one horse at an expense of \$15. How many days' work was put on that patch in fitting, setting plants, hoeing, cultivating, and mulching we can't say, for we did not keep a record; but one thing we are certain of, there was a "heap" of it. Now, supposing there had been a frost to kill all or nearly all the blossoms, and such a thing often occurs, the balance on the credit side would have been a minus quantity. During the four years just past there have been two years when frosts and bad weather during bloom, and drouths during the picking season, all but ruined the berry crop. From my observation and experience, I have concluded that we can safely reckon on having one-half the seasons poor, with once in a while a complete failure, and the other half good, with once in a while an unusually good crop, like that of 1896. Plenty of rain, but not too much, during the picking season, seems to be the one thing necessary to produce great crops of small fruits.

Our experience teaches us that it is best to go slow in trying new varieties, otherwise results are likely to be at times disappointing. Out of the six new varieties fruiting the past season, we shall retain only three. Of the three to be discarded, Enhance and Cyclone were tested only in a small way, but of the Bederwood we set, one year ago last spring, 500 plants, and they gave us scarcely anything. To be sure, the rows were covered with a mass of blossoms, but when it came picking time, the berries did not seem to be there. The grower of whom I purchased the plants has this to say of them: "Very early and productive. It is recognized as a standard sort for fertilizing all extra early pistillate varieties." Its faults, as we found them on our soil—clay loam—during the past season, which was not very favorable, being too dry, were that a large percent of the fruit grew on short stems, not a little of it was ill-shaped, while all of it picked hard and was poor quality. Of course, under conditions more favorable to this variety, it might do all right. As far as we could see, the Cyclone and Enhance have no characteristics that should make either a desirable variety. The Marshall gave us some very fine fruit, large in size and of the best flavor and color. We should judge, however, that it was not a heavy yielder. The Brandywine and Wm. Belt gave us some large berries of fair quality, but they did not give as large a yield as the Warfield and Crescent. We are more pleased with the Warfield each year, and wish that we could get a staminate variety that combined as many good qualities as does the Warfield.

Last spring we purchased eight new varieties—the Aroma, Banquet, Brunette, Clyde, Margaret, Darling, Earliest, and Sunnyside. All are bi-sexual except Sunnyside. My newly-set bed is doing fine, except for the ravages of the white grub. This is the only enemy of the strawberry that we have had to contend with so far, excepting frost and drouth. The only way to fight the white grub that we know of, is to watch the patch closely, and when a plant begins to look "sick," search for the enemy. Plants do not amount to much after being set back in this way, but although we cannot save the plant it is working in, we can prevent other plants being destroyed by the same rascal.

St. Clair Co.

M. N. EDGERTON.

For The Michigan Farmer.

THE GARDEN.

One of the novelties lately offered for public favor is the Asparagus lettuce. It resembles the cos varieties in manner of growth, having long, slender leaves which do not form a head. It also differs from the common lettuces in not being used for salads, but is more properly to be classed with the pot herbs. The dark green, tender leaves make delicate "greens" and they are not long in getting ready for use. The one objection which we have to Asparagus lettuce is that it is not productive. Compared with spinach, Swiss chard, and several other vegetables, it has a very small amount of foliage, which is one reason why it is not likely to come into extensive cultivation very soon, even for home use, while the market gardener can hardly be expected to raise much of it. But it is certainly worth trying. It has a flavor of its own which should make it a favorite with some.

Trionon or Celery lettuce is another plant not often found in the garden. In manner of growth it closely resembles Asparagus lettuce, but is ranker. The leaves are tied together and blanched before using. The mid-rib resembles celery somewhat. It is not likely to be of much importance in the garden, but is certainly worth growing as a novelty. Like the cos varieties generally, the extra attention needed to get it ready for the table is an objection when there are so many kinds that form close heads which are ready for use as they grow. The more delicate flavor is not of enough importance, with the majority of people, to warrant the extra trouble of tying up the leaves, though that is really a small matter.

It seems strange that Swiss Chard is not more commonly found in the garden than it is. Beets are sown thickly with the expectation that as they are thinned out the young plants will be used for greens, but they do not equal Swiss Chard for this purpose. As the latter forms no root of importance the growth goes into a luxuriant foliage which may be used during a long period in the summer. The leaves have a better flavor than those of the common beet. The mid-rib may be cooked by itself and make an important addition to the summer bill of fare. It may be had for a succession by sowing in the spring and at mid-summer, and as the leaves keep good for a long time it is one of those vegetables which are serviceable at a cost of very little labor.

Our experience with pyrethrum as a cure for cabbage worms has been satisfactory this summer. Having only a few plants in the garden we took them over frequently and when a worm is found he receives a puff from the powder gun. He does not seem to mind it at first, but when the drug begins to take hold the worm begins to squirm. There is soon an end of him. We have not yet seen a failure. The powder is not expensive and a little will go a long way in clearing cabbages of these unwelcome visitors. Pyrethrum, also known as bubach, is cleanly and safe to handle, as it does not injure any animal which breathes by means of lungs. The most serious objection to it is that it will lose its strength if exposed to the atmosphere. Thus far we have not found it of much value for ridding a plant of lice, though it is recommended for the purpose.

Those who are acquainted with what is known as pigweed, and few who have a garden are not, will be surprised to read what is said about it in the Year Book of the Department of Agriculture for 1895. We quote the following: "In its young stage, when 6 or 8 inches high, the plant is very tender and succulent, and in Europe, as well as in some parts of our own country, has often been employed as a pot herb. Indeed, its botanical relationship would indicate its adaptability to such a use, since it belongs to the same family as the beet, spinach, orach, and mercury." So it happens that right here, at the very door of our habitation, without any effort on our part, this valuable plant has been growing and year after year inviting us to make use of it, but we were too stupid to understand. The pig is wiser. He knows what is good when he sees it, and devours this weed with a relish, hence the name. Here is an enormous amount of good food going to waste every year.

Another plant which it seems is not appreciated as it should be is purslane, better known as "pusley." The gardener should find some of the ache taken out of his back when he is told that "the plant is a native of India, has been cultivated from the earliest times, and was such an early accompaniment of civilization as to have a Sanskrit name. It was carried westward to Europe, and has there been in use for centuries as a salad and pot herb." It is too bad that our ancestors did not leave the weed on the other side of the Atlantic, where it has an honorable place. We do not seem equal to the task of finding out its true value. Here, again, the pig shows his wisdom. Purslane is a delicacy to him.

F. D. W.

THE FRINGED-WING APPLE BUD MOTH.

(From Press Bulletin of the Kansas Experiment Station.)

During the last two years the Fringed-wing Apple Bud Moth (*Nothris maligemella*) has been doing considerable damage in various parts of the State. Judging from its work here and what it has done in Missouri it promises to be a very troublesome if not one of the most destructive pests attacking our apple trees. The insect was seen in Riley county one year ago last spring, but as the injuries from it were comparatively insignificant it attracted but little attention and remained unidentified. So far as has been ascertained the insect is pretty well confined to the eastern counties of the State. During the spring of the present year, Prof. Faville and assistant made several trips to various parts of the State, and reported the presence of the pest in nine counties, comprising Johnson, Leavenworth, Douglas, Wyandotte, Jefferson, Osage, Greenwood, Wabunsee, and Riley.

The Entomological Department desires to ascertain the present distribution of the pest, and to that end solicits correspondence from those suspecting its presence in their communities. The following facts regarding its appearance and life history will assist in its identification. That it may not gain a much wider distribution a number of remedial measures are given, some of which should be used as soon as any work of the pest is discovered.

The insect attacks the apple principally. A more extensive examination will no doubt reveal that it is common to other fruit trees. In Manhattan it was found on the pear, peach and plum, but in much less numbers than upon the apple.

The adult is a small moth with an expanse of wings of about two-thirds of an inch. It is of a brownish buff color with more or less bluish gray shading on thorax, wings and body.

The following is a brief description of the life history of the insect: The adults appear early in the spring and the females commence to deposit very small yellow eggs singly in the expanding buds and leaves. The eggs are usually deposited at night, and the

(Continued on page 185.)

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number laid by one female is estimated to be about twenty-five. The eggs hatch in about a week. When the larvae or worms first emerge from the eggs they are very small, about one twenty-fifth of an inch in length, and are of a light yellow color, with the head a shining black, and the upper part of the next segment brownish. It is these little caterpillars or worms that do the damage. The larvae begin to feed upon and to attack the buds or adjacent leaves. The damage to the buds is the most serious. When these are attacked the larvae draw several of the central leaves of the buds together over themselves as a sort of protection; and within the shelter thus provided they work their way down the center or heart of both the flower and leaf-buds. It is not long before the young shoot with its terminal bud and developing leaves and flowers is cut off, or injured to such an extent that it soon withers and dies, thus destroying the prospect for next year's crop, besides checking the growth of the shoot. Often the larvae are so numerous about the buds that they are compelled to abandon the buds and seek the leaves. This they will do either by dropping down to a lower leaf by means of a tiny thread or by crawling down the shoot, wandering from one place to another till a suitable leaf is found. Upon reaching a leaf they will draw the edges of it together by fine threads, making a sort of a case, in which they rest when not eating. When there are no close adjoining leaves they will commence to feed on the leaf furnishing them shelter. Some seem to prefer the petiole of the leaf to the leaf itself, and in a number of instances the petiole or stem is severed, causing the leaf to fall to the ground with the larva. In a severe attack the buds and terminal leaves are often injured to such an extent that the trees have a brownish appearance. Besides attacking the leaves and the buds the larvae also eat away the stem of the young apples just forming, causing them to fall, and in some instances bore into them, inducing them to shrivel. The first brood of larvae this year lasted from the 15th of April to the 4th of June.

Owing to its peculiar habits the pest is a difficult one to combat, necessitating, as it does, very close observation upon the part of the operator to determine just when the larvae are hatching. Then, just when the larvae are emerging, is the time to spray. Also one must take into consideration that larvae will appear from eggs laid later than the first. To combat these a second spraying is necessary, and possibly a third or fourth in order to guard against later appearing larvae. Spraying with Paris green or London purple at the rate of one pound in 150 gallons of water, with from one to two pounds of lime, is the most effective remedy.

ORCHARD WISDOM.

Prof. Bailey, of the Cornell Experiment Station, gives the following suggestions to orchardists in the Massachusetts Ploughman:

If orchards are to be made profitable they must receive as good care as other crops.

Good drainage, natural or artificial, is essential to success. Trees are impatient of wet feet.

Good tillage increases the available food supply of the soil and also conserves its moisture.

Tillage should be begun just as soon as the ground is dry enough in the spring, and should be repeated as often as once in ten days throughout the growing season, which extends from spring until July or August.

Only cultivated crops should be allowed in orchards early in the season. Grain and hay should never be grown.

Even home or cultivated crops may rob the trees of moisture and fertility if they are allowed to stand above the tree roots.

Watch a sod orchard. It will begin to fall before you know it.

Probably nine-tenths of the apple orchards are in sod, and many of them are meadows. Of course they are failing.

The remedy for these apple failures is to cut down many of the orchards. For the remainder the treatment is cultivation, fertilizing, spraying—the trinity of orthodox apple-growing.

Potash may be had in wood ashes and muriate of potash. It is most commonly used in the latter form. An annual application of potash should be

made upon bearing orchards, 500 pounds to the acre.

The crops well adapted to this late sowing are few. Vetch is probably the best which has been tested. But everything points to crimson clover as the ideal orchard cover and green manure.

The Dairy.

We have a complete Dairy and Farm Creamery in constant operation on the Experiment Farm at Climax, Mich. This is personally conducted by J. H. Brown. All dairy correspondence should be sent to Climax, Mich.

For The Michigan Farmer.

IMPROVING THE DAIRY HERD.

There is no better time than the autumn to begin to improve the dairy herd by selling off the run-down and inferior cows and replacing them in the spring with better ones. The market price for dairy cows is never very good in the fall, but beef animals are always in demand. Poor dairy cows often make good beef animals. With a little extra feeding they can be fattened up so as to command good prices at the slaughtering house. Select the poorest milkers every fall, and start in to feed them for the market. Take them off the regular diet given to the milkers, and feed them with all the grain-fattening food that you can. There is nothing better for this than corn in its various forms, and sufficient coarse food to prevent indigestion, and a fair quantity of roots to keep the bowels open. Do not let the cows exercise much, but keep them in a cool, comfortable place, where they can get good air and plenty of sunshine. Four weeks of this fattening process will increase their weight very materially. Then as soon as they have ceased to gain send them to the market. The Thanksgiving market is generally a good one when fair prices can be expected.

Meanwhile begin to breed for new dairy cows to take their place. Breed carefully according to the law of dairy breeding. Choose the best in the herd and breed them to a sire from a butter-making family. When good dairy cows are secured feed them well. It does not pay to scrimp the dairy cows with good food even through the winter. They should have all the good ensilage necessary to keep them in good condition and to make a good, continuous flow of milk. Likewise the calf must be fed liberally. If stunted in her growth it cannot be expected that the calf will mature into a first-class dairy cow. It should not be fed to such an extent as to fatten up, but just enough to make her strong, vigorous and healthy. If you fatten the calf now, a little later when you want her to give plenty of milk, she will appropriate most of the food for fat-making, and leave only a little for milk.

It takes time, patience and intelligence to breed up a good dairy herd, and it is better to learn the lessons of breeding and feeding through experience than to purchase a fine herd outright and then through ignorance let it run down. It is sometimes a long, hard lesson to learn, but no man is fitted to stay permanently in the dairy business unless he has had this experience. It is worth more than anything else. When you take a common herd and breed it up to a high standard in a few years, you can make a good living in dairying.

Ohio. E. P. SMITH.

IS DAIRYING OVERDONE?

I meet men quite frequently who ask the question, "Is not the dairy business overdone, or is it not more than likely to be in the near future?" This is a question over which I have long since ceased to worry. For twenty years I have had men tell me that in one, two or three years the price of dairy products would go to the eternal bow-wows, and I am of the opinion that twenty years hence men will be making the same predictions.

Why this question should be asked or the claim made that dairying is likely to be overdone, and seldom if ever applied to any other branch of farming, I am unable to understand.

I do not remember of ever hearing a farmer say that hog-raising, beef, wheat, corn, oats, or hay farming was overdone, regardless of the prices of these products. This fear as to the stability of the dairy business is working harm. There are many farmers who are working along, or I should say, just playing along at dairying, ready to let go when the supposed

break comes. They are afraid to improve their herd with dairy blood or invest money in dairy cows for fear of sacrificing beef or losing money invested in dairy cows when the time comes that the dairy industry will no longer be profitable.

The claim is made that with a constant increase in the number of creameries, the supply must sometimes be greater than the demand. Creameries do not and will not injure the dairy industry. The creameries have been one of the greatest dairy educators in existence, and have done more, and are still doing more, for the dairy industry than any other agency.

Our creameries have made their own markets, by supplying a superior article. They have raised the standard of our butter, and are educating the people to appreciate a good article. True, the creamery has injured the price of the average farm butter, and I do not think the time is far off when this low grade of farm butter will be crowded out of the markets entirely, and farmers who make 6 1-4 cent butter will be compelled to improve in their methods or shut up their grease shops.

Education is of slow growth, and it takes a long time to educate people to even know what is good. But a demand once established, it is permanent. With all the inventive ingenuity of man, nothing has yet been found to take the place or fill the bill of good, honest cow butter, and I believe it to be the most effective weapon with which to fight all imitations and frauds. Through the influence and education of these creameries a place has been found and good markets established for millions of pounds of butter, and I have no fears but that our markets will expand with our supply for years to come; at least I never expect to see the time when dairy products will not be in demand at paying prices to the dairyman.

Kansas. M. E. KING.

HOW A GREAT CHEESE WAS MADE.

In the year 1800, at the time of the exciting election between Mr. Adams, of the federalist party, and Mr. Jefferson, of the old democratic party, there occurred a bit of very interesting dairy history—the first really notable affair concerning the dairy that had as yet occurred in the new world, and of which the following account is mainly due to Elihu Burritt. In those days one of the great pulpits of New England was Elder John Leland. Politics ran high and the contest between federalists and democrats was almost as bitter as that between republicans and democrats of to-day.

In the little town of Cheshire, nestling among the middle hills of Massachusetts, says Mr. Burritt, a counter voice of great power was lifted up from its pulpit against the flood of obloquy and denunciation that rolled and roared against Jefferson and democracy. This was Elder John Leland, one of the most extraordinary preachers produced by those stirring times, and he preached such stirring Jeffersonian democracy to the people of Cheshire that for generations they never voted anything but the straight democratic ticket.

Democracy prevailed, Jefferson was elected president, and no man had done more to bring about this result than Elder John Leland, of the little hill town of Cheshire, Mass. He now resolved to set the seal of Cheshire to the election in a way to make the nation know there was such a town in the republic of Israel. With a few earnest words he invited every man and woman who owned a cow to bring every quart of milk given on a certain day, or all the curd it would make, to a great cider mill belonging to their townsman, Capt. John Brown, who was the first man to detect and denounce the treachery of Benedict Arnold in the Revolution. No federal cow was allowed to contribute a drop of milk to the offering, lest it leaven the whole lump with its distasteful savour.

It was the most glorious day the sun ever shone upon before or since in Cheshire. Its brightest beams seemed to bless the day's work. With their best Sunday clothes under their white tow frocks, came the men and boys of the town, down from the hills, up from the valleys, with their contributions to the great offering in pails and tubs. Mothers, wives and all the rosy maidens of these rural homes, came in their white aprons and best calico dresses to the sound of the church bell, and that called young and old, rich and

poor to the great co-operative fabrication. In farm wagons and Sunday wagons, in carts and all kinds of four-wheeled and two-wheeled vehicles, they wended their way to the general rendezvous, all exuberant with the spirit of the occasion.

An enormous hoop had been prepared, placed upon the bed of the cider press, which had been well purified for the work and covered with a false bottom of the purest material. The hoop, resting on this, formed a huge cheese box or segment of a cistern and was placed directly under three powerful wooden screws which turned up the massive headblock above.

A committee of arrangements met the contributors as they arrived and conducted them to the great white, shallow vat, into which they poured their contingents of curd, from the large tubs of well-to-do dairymen to the six-quart pail of the poor owner of a single cow.

When the last contribution was given in, a select committee of the town addressed themselves to the nice and delicate task of mixing and flavoring and tinting such a mass of curd as was never brought to press before. But the farmers' wives of Cheshire were equal to the duty and responsibility of the office. All was now ready for the coup de grace of the operation. The signal was given; the ponderous screws twisted themselves out from the huge beam overhead with even thread and line. The stout young farmers manned the long levers, the screws creaked, and posts and beams responded to the pressure with a sound between a puff and a groan. It was a complete success. All the congregation with the children in the middle, stood in a compact circle around the great press. Then Elder John Leland, standing upon a block of wood, and with his deep-lined face overlooking the whole assembly, spread out his great, toll-hardened hands, and looking steadily with open eyes heavenward as if to see the pathway of his thanksgiving to God and the return blessing in its descent, offered up the gladness and gratitude of his flock for the one earnest mind that had inspired them to that day's deed, and invoked Divine favor upon it and the national leader for whom it was designed.

When the cheese was well cured and ready for use it weighed sixteen hundred pounds, but as it could not be safely conveyed on wheels to its destination, it waited until mid-winter. Then it was placed on a sleigh and no one but Elder John Leland could be entrusted with the precious load. He took the reins, driving all the way from Cheshire to Washington, full five hundred miles, receiving testimonials and varying acclamations in the towns through which he passed. Arriving in Washington, Mr. Jefferson received him in state. The big cheese was duly presented and speeches made, and the President's steward passed a long, glittering knife through the cheese, taking out a deep, golden wedge, which was served with bread and ale in the presence of the heads of the departments, foreign ministers and many other eminent personages. It was highly complimented for its richness, flavor and color, and was the most perfect specimen of cheese ever exhibited at the White House. Then Mr. Jefferson sent a great, golden wedge of cheese back to the makers, which they ate with double relish as the President's gift to them as well as theirs to him.

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DETROIT, SATURDAY, SEPT. 10, 1898.

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WELCOMED HOME.

During the past week the two regiments of Michigan Volunteers which formed a part of the United States troops which attacked Santiago, have returned home—at least those who have been able to stand the journey. That the people of this city gave them a hearty welcome goes without saying. But the appearance of these men, who marched away so bravely some four months ago, was more provocative of tears than cheers. They were weak and emaciated, and a large number were so sick that they had to be sent to hospitals. Everything was done that was thought would in any way help these brave young fellows, but the shadow of death was on many of their faces. It is a mercy that they have gotten away from Cuba and are again among their own people.

It was known by those who had given the subject much study, that a campaign in that fever-stricken island during the rainy season would surely cost thousands of lives, and that disease, not death in battle, was the most serious menace to the success of the campaign. The results have only proved too true the forebodings of those who deprecated a descent on Cuba until the sickly season was over. But the wild appeals of the sensational part of the daily press so worked up public sentiment that nothing but an invasion of the island would be listened to. The troops were dispatched, the campaign fought under the most serious difficulties, and the successes achieved were wonderful and decisive. But the diseases, which had been cost-

ing Spain 20,000 soldiers yearly, then attacked the troops, and the result has been lamentable. The losses have been heavy, and those who have returned are yet in more danger from disease than they were from Spanish bullets while attacking the stronghold of Santiago. It has not been all glory. There have been great hardships, suffering, disease, and death, and the graves of many Michigan soldiers will long mark the lines which they held under the burning suns and heavy rains which make Cuba a death-trap to northern men.

When some of the daily press were denouncing the administration for not declaring war, and certain members of Congress were making inflammatory speeches, demanding instant action by the government, The Farmer made some predictions as to what would occur should war finally be declared. We quote a part of the remarks:

"In the event of war, however, these gentlemen would be entirely safe from danger. The fighting would have to be done by young men, and only their families would know its afflictions in case of their death. When the war was over these same congressmen would be arrogating to themselves a high place in the confidence of the people because they had done what they could to bring it on while safe in their seats as representatives. They would not know anything of the horrors or hardships of war, and would therefore be willing to sacrifice every constituent of legal age rather than have the country lose in the struggle. They would be known as the friends of the oppressed because they had expended so much wind, in a safe place, in advocating their cause. * * *

"These men who talk so glibly about war will be missing when the time comes to take up arms and fall in. It will be the young, ardent men who will march to the support of the government, and who will bear the hardships, suffer the wounds and death, and whose remnants will come back to their old homes maimed and crippled for life, or dying from disease."

The war is happily over. The losses sustained have been very much less than could possibly have been expected. We have great reason to be thankful. But in many a home there is a void that can never be filled. The glory won has cost something, and in many a household all over the land there is mourning and distress. Meanwhile we glance over the lists of those who fell on the field or died by the wayside or in the hospital, but not the name of a single congressman who was demanding war can be found. The congressional ranks are full, the flow of eloquence will be as great as ever at the next session of Congress. There have been sacrifices made—there had to be to secure victory—but not a congressman has suffered.

THE OUTLOOK FOR WHEAT.

The future of the wheat market does not look very promising for growers at present. Values are declining even with very conservative marketing on the part of farmers. The crop is undoubtedly one of the largest ever grown in this country. The high prices of last fall induced growers to increase the area seeded, and while in the winter wheat states the yield is not up to anticipations, the losses in this direction are more than made good by the greater acreage. The yield in the winter wheat states will probably reach 375 to 380 millions of bushels, and in the spring wheat states from 285 to 300 millions of bushels. Taking the outside figures in both instances, we have a grand total for the crop of 680,000,000 bushels. If the crop reaches this total we may look for still lower prices than now prevail. European crops are also a good average—excellent in some countries, fair in others, and poor in some large districts in Russia. The

amounts required by importing nations will therefore be much less the coming season than last, although the high prices of last season undoubtedly cut down consumption very materially, as it always does. The only favorable points in the situation for sellers are, first, the comparative exhaustion of old stocks before the new crop came upon the market; second, that the low price will assuredly lead to a greatly increased consumption. The latter fact is going to exercise an important influence upon the market, as it has been found that the question of price will add to or decrease consumption to the amount of fully a bushel per head of the population. If it should increase the consumption to that amount this season as compared with last, it would mean an additional home consumption of 70,000,000 bushels. In France, Great Britain and Germany the results of high and low prices are fully as pronounced as in the United States.

The practical dissipation of old stocks of wheat in all wheat-consuming nations will also prove an important factor, as those stocks will not only be made good from the present crop, but we believe that they will be added to as the result of the severe experience of last year. The disposition among importing countries hereafter will be, we think, to carry increased stocks of wheat in order to be prepared for emergencies.

Another point that will have an important bearing upon wheat values is the supply of potatoes and beans, articles used to supplement wheat when prices are high, and the consumption of which is greatly reduced when they are scarce and high in price and wheat is low. What the potato crop will be this season is not yet fully determined, but it seems likely that it will not be an average, and that prices will not be so low as to interfere with the consumption of wheat. Potatoes in this State will not be a fair crop, and beans not more than half a full average. The out-turn in other states is as yet an undecided question.

The factors mentioned above are the ones which will determine wheat values the coming year. They might be nullified to some extent by foreign wars, or the condition of the industrial classes. The first is hardly likely to occur, and the latter promises to be very favorable for a more liberal consumption of staple food products than for some years. We look for a very active year in trade circles, with an enlargement of business enterprises, as the result of the cheapness of capital and the natural rebound from the business quietness that followed the inauguration of the war. The future certainly looks favorable for a prosperous year in nearly all lines of production, and this will have considerable influence upon the value of wheat.

Our Paris correspondent sends us the following regarding French crops this season: "The harvest gives general satisfaction, but for the sake of upholding the right to growl, there are cultivators who bemoan the fact that rye and oats leave something to be wished. In the matter of barley, the brewers and malsters have entered into relations with farmers capable of producing the samples they require, and over which there will be no discussion as to price. The moist weather some time ago led to a second outbreak of the potato fungi, but the sprayers at once resumed work, and laid the enemy. While potatoes are very large and mealy, other root crops are fair. The hay harvest turned out a most plentiful yield, and that is causing many cultivators to buy in stock to fatten."

A PROBLEM THAT MUST BE SOLVED.

The question as to what course the government will pursue with the Philippines is likely to prove a vexed one before it is settled. There is a wide difference in the opinions of those who have discussed it through the public press. The government, in dealing with the question, will have to consider it from various points of view. The interests of the United States, must, of course, not be lost sight of. But that is not all. It is quite probable that certain promises have been given to the insurgent chiefs to secure their co-operation in driving the Spanish forces out of the islands. If so, then they must be fulfilled. Common honesty demands this. It is altogether likely that one condition demanded was that the islands and their inhabitants should not again be turned over to Spain. That government's treatment of the people has been so outrageously tyrannical and unjust that it would be criminal to turn over the people again to its tender mercies. That point seems to settle itself—the Spaniards must not again be placed in control of the Philippines. If, however, they cannot be returned to Spain, who is to control them hereafter? It is evident we cannot trade them, sell them or give them away. To do either would undoubtedly precipitate trouble. Germany wants them, and will not allow any other country in Europe to acquire them without a struggle. Great Britain wants them, but not so badly as Germany. That is also true of Japan. It is the jealousies of these nations which render the question so complicated. Meanwhile, the leaders of the natives have been discussing the question from their point of view. In a conference of chiefs it is reported that all but two of the eighteen who took part in it voted for annexation to the United States. It is quite evident they do not want to be under either German or Spanish supervision.

In this connection it may be stated that General Jaudenes, the present Spanish governor of the Philippines, replying to his government's request for information as to the true situation of affairs in the archipelago, reports that to assure the re-establishment of Spanish sovereignty over the islands would require a permanent army of sixty thousand men, a fleet and endless quantities of materials, and this statement is undoubtedly a conservative one, as the insurgents have an army of fully 35,000 men, well armed.

Under the conditions surrounding this problem, it is apparent that it is a most important and difficult one to settle satisfactorily. Germany has a strong fleet watching the outcome, and Admiral Dewey is reported to have asked for reinforcements to his fleet in view of possible complications. It looks as if it would be as hard to let go as hold on, and either may lead to further trouble.

When Congress meets it has a plain duty before it. That is to make a searching investigation of everything relating to the war, ascertain clearly who were incompetent, indifferent, or dishonest, punish them by driving them out of the service with a brand that will prevent them ever re-entering it; probe the weakness of the system in vogue in the various departments, especially the commissary and medical, and have them remedied at once if it is necessary to dismiss every official to accomplish this result. We want the blame placed where it belongs, and exact justice meted out to everyone.

A VALUABLE VARIETY.

This is the second season which Dawson's Golden Chaff wheat has been generally grown in this State, and the reports so far received from those who have grown it are proof that its early promise has been fully sustained. So far as we can learn, it has out-yielded all other varieties this season, when big yields are quite common. Some samples received from growers are very fine. One from J. Jenks & Co., of Sand Beach, is particularly fine. The grains are large, plump and even, and must overrun 60 pounds to the bushel in weight. The Messrs. Jenks write us that they grew five acres of this variety, and they yielded over 275 bushels, or over 55 bushels to the acre. This is the heaviest yield so far reported, but we have one of 37 bushels to the acre, on 20 acres, and several of over 40 bushels on from one to five acres.

In quality this variety is one of the best white wheats ever grown in the State. Analyses made by Dr. R. C. Kedzie, of the Agricultural College, who is responsible for its introduction into Michigan, show that it is richer in gluten than most white wheats, although not equal of course to the best red wheats in that respect. We have had no white wheat in years that has yielded as well as Dawson's Golden Chaff, or has succeeded so well over such a wide area with great diversity of soils. Last season two complaints were received from farmers with whom it had not done well. This season, so far, not a single complaint has been received. Reports of experiment stations in Pennsylvania, Indiana and Canada are very favorable for this variety.

Under present market conditions there is one drawback connected with this variety, as well as with all other white varieties. In the Chicago market white wheats are unknown. As that city leads the speculative markets, all the grades speculated in are red wheats. It is true some little dealing is done in this city, but the grade is a low one and the price below that of red wheats. This is a disadvantage of course, but the big yields of Dawson's Golden Chaff will probably give its growers better returns than the lighter-yielding red varieties. The time was when Michigan extra white wheat sold at the top price in the markets of the United States as well as in Liverpool and London, but that advantage has been lost by the manipulations of those who have not hesitated to degrade the wheat of their own State if they could make money by the operation.

A VICTORY FOR CIVILIZATION.

While we have been engaged in watching closely the ending of the war with Spain, the British army in the Soudan has been steadily pushing its way southward to Khartoum. Saturday of last week the Dervishes, numbering some 35,000, made a most determined attack upon the Anglo-Egyptian army, commanded by Gen. Sir Herbert Kitchener. The first attack was beaten off after several hours of fierce fighting, the Dervish force showing the most reckless bravery and suffering fearfully from the fire of the Maxim guns and the rifles of the infantry. A second attack followed, and was continued until nearly half the attacking force was killed. Their losses are put at 15,000 men, and that of the Anglo-Egyptian army at over 2,000. The Dervish army has been completely broken up and scattered, and it will be some time before it can be brought together and re-organized. Since the battle the Anglo-Egyptian army has marched forward,

and, aided by the gunboats on the Nile, has captured Khartoum, the principal city of the Soudan. The campaign has been prosecuted for over a year, and has reached the objective point for which it started. Its success means much to the whole regions tributary to the Nile, in that civilization, progress and security for life and property will take the place of barbaric fanaticism and rapine and murder. That blot upon modern civilization in Africa, the slave trade, will be driven out of its greatest stronghold, and the whole country rescued from a rule of the most brutal tyranny.

It is about fifteen years since Great Britain was induced, under the leadership of Mr. Gladstone, to withdraw its army from this country. It proved a great and costly mistake, and what was done in the interests of peace, turned out to be the most fatal mistake made in years by the British government. Khartoum was captured by the barbarians, Gordon, the British representative, murdered, and the whole Soudan overrun by the fanatics assembled under the banner of El Mahdi. The whole region dropped back again into the most complete barbarism. But the barbarians began pushing farther north, capturing towns and cities, driving out or murdering the inhabitants, until to save Egypt the British government had to organize an army and recover the ground it had so foolishly surrendered. It is not likely the mistake will be repeated, and the whole of that immense region will hereafter be under the rule of a civilized government, and enlightenment and progress take the place of barbarism and misrule. The accounts of the battle are highly creditable to the valor of the British soldier, as well as the ability of the officers in command of the Anglo-Egyptian army.

AGRICULTURE IN ENGLAND.

As Seen by a Young Michigan Farmer.

While the above country is much older than the United States, it is far behind us in methods of agriculture. It seems to be a contagious disease with all the residents to practice the same methods as their forefathers. Our trip through England took us over what is said to be the better portions and most fertile fields. The country is rolling, the soil thin and quite stony in some parts, the fields are small and fenced with hedges, with an occasional larger tract of farming land. The crops raised are oats, potatoes, hay, wheat and roots. The absence of corn is very noticeable to a Michigan farmer.

A two-wheeled cart, with one and sometimes two heavy fat horses hitched tandem is most common. This heavy cart is used for all purposes, to cart heavy loads on the farm and the produce to town, and frequently as a family carryall. Some of the more fortunate farmers have a lighter conveyance called a "dog cart," with room for four persons. This is a high two-wheeled rig, with plenty of "hoss motion." A four-wheeled conveyance is used by some, which is very comfortable to ride in, but all the country rigs are without any top or cover, and are built very heavy. The roads are good; they are covered with broken stone, which are pressed into the road bed with a heavy steam roller, are only one and a half to two rods wide, and angle about.

The farming tools are very heavy, made of iron, steel and wood. Wheat and oats are cut with four and one-half to five foot binders, that were manufactured in the United States. The hay is cut with mowers and the "old reliable scythe," occasionally we saw a horse rake, but most of the hay is raked into "lap-cocks" by hand. They were securing the hay crop as we drove through the country. It appeared to be similar to timothy hay with us, but is called "rye grass" here; it remains in the "lap-cocks" for a time to cure, and then it is drawn

to ricks or stacks, with the carts. We often saw two men loading by hand without any forks, for two pitchforks, and a fifth man or boy following with a hand rake, gathering the scatterings. The hay is stacked in large stacks in the field or near the barn, where it may be wanted for future use. These stacks are all nicely and evenly thatched, and will keep for a long time, as many were seen that were more than a year old. The first cutting of clover hay had been cut and stacked. The numerous well-formed stacks presented a pleasing sight, all of one pattern, as if built by a master hand. The second cutting was about one foot high; this is to be pastured off by sheep, which are hurdled over the field.

The wheat crop was as in June in Southern Michigan, and as it was a good crop, spoke well for the English farmer and his system of farming. However, if it was not for the presence of the sheep's "golden hoof" the farmer's bank account would be very light. I believe they fully realize this fact, for they try to keep as many sheep as their farms will carry.

The plowing is done with two horses abreast, hitched far from the plow with chain tugs to long sticks for whiffletrees. I have not seen a whiffletree on any carriage; they all fasten to the side of the thill. The teams when plowing are driven with rope lines fastened to the outside bit ring, the team being tied together with a short rope from bit to bit. They plow very shallow, as the soil in some parts is only four or five inches deep, underlaid with chalk and marl beds. The furrow is from six to eight inches wide and plowed in lands, one acre per day being a good day's work; the fitting and seeding is slow and tedious. They are very careful with their horses, as they are expensive. In one field where kale was being sown, two men and a boy, with three horses, one horse ahead of the two hitched nearest the drill, were required to do the work, that one man would have done in Michigan with our improved machinery.

The absence of school houses in the rural districts were very noticeable. On inquiry we learned that private teachers were kept to teach the children at home until they were old enough to send them abroad to city schools.

In the southern part of England they were suffering from a drouth; for over six weeks no rain had fallen, but several nice showers favored us all while we were there. Wells are scarce and it entails great expense to get a good one. We only saw one, which was about 200 feet deep. Many of the stock breeders have large barrels or tanks on carts for drawing water to the stock when it is not possible for them to be driven to the watering places. The watering places are large basins dug out of the hill-sides into which the water is drained during a heavy rainfall. All this season they did not present a very inviting appearance.

I write this to give those who may not have an opportunity of seeing this country as it is, an idea how agriculture is conducted in old England. I would also say to those young farmers in America who are dissatisfied with their lot, that a few days among the laboring classes in England would make them feel that if there was ever a place where it is "heaven on earth" it is among the agricultural classes in southern Michigan. I have had a very pleasant and enjoyable trip of over 8,000 miles.

J. H. TAFT.

The peculiar characteristics of the Spanish people and their government was never better exemplified than in the case of the authorities at Havana, who refuse to permit an American vessel, loaded with a million rations for the starving people, to land her load until some \$60,000 in duties have been paid. If our government pays those duties so as to be able to save the people of Havana from starving, it argues that we are the best natured people on earth. What the Spaniards are must be imagined from their demands.

Olin Family 30-day excursion over Lake Shore and tributaries to Cleveland and Buffalo, Sept. 29, '98. Fare round trip \$6.75 and \$9.00 respectively. For particulars address W. W. Olin, Kalamazoo, Mich.

LETTER FROM AN OLD PIONEER.

To the Editor of the Michigan Farmer:

I am a constant reader of The Michigan Farmer, and like it very much; its pages are full of interest. Of late I see much in regard to smut in wheat. Now I have raised wheat for fifty years or more, and never but once had a crop that was smutty. My method is to thoroughly roll my seed wheat in newly slacked lime. If the lime is good and freshly slacked, it will entirely destroy the germs of smut. Smut is a fungus, and the germs, like all other diseases, increase from year to year if let alone.

This is the month of agricultural fairs. The fair in this place will be held very soon, and we expect a fine show of farm products, as well as cattle and sheep.

This is an old agricultural State. Many years have passed since the primitive forest was cleared by a hardy pioneer race, mostly from the states of Connecticut and Massachusetts; yet I can well recollect when the rush from these states to the State of Michigan set in. Hundreds of my acquaintances were the first settlers of the State—mostly settling in Jackson county; but as far as I know have all passed over the river. They met the diseases of a new country, such as chills and fevers, and nine out of ten succumbed to the diseases, or were so weakened that they soon passed away. But Michigan is now one of the richest agricultural states in the Union, although in 1832 it was but little known. So rapid is the settlement of new States that Washington and Oregon, hardly known in 1860, are now settling up with fast growing cities and extending commerce. Yet neither of these states are equal, for agricultural purposes, to the States lying east of the Rocky mountains. Still they grow wonderful crops of wheat and oats, and the wheat in the shape of flour is shipped to China and Japan, and the islands of the Pacific. But their forest products, when manufactured into lumber, are being shipped all over the world.

Your annual excursion is a good thing. It tends to let farmers mingle together and interchange their ideas, and form new acquaintances. I can say it is a fine trip. I had the pleasure of sailing on one of the Great Northern R. R. steamers from Buffalo to Duluth, and must say it was one of the most pleasant trips of my life. I was astonished at the amount of shipping on the Great Lakes, and it is still on the increase.

JOSIAH PECK.

The Hawaiian commission is in session at Honolulu and at last accounts was considering what name should be given to the new territory as well as discussing the form of government and number of officials it should have.

Major Webb Hayes, son of ex-President Hayes, has proposed a plan looking toward the re-organization of the National Guard under military law. The plan provides that the president appoint an adjutant general for each state, and as many bodies of militia can be raised in each state as the circumstances require and all the officers be nominated by the governors of the various states. They will then be under direct control of the national government and much of the difficulty experienced when the guard were called out for service for the war will be obviated.

It looks now as if Dreyfus, the prisoner in chains at Devil's Island, may soon have his case reheard. Lieutenant Colonel Henry, of the French army, on whose testimony, together with a letter produced by him, the conviction of Dreyfus mainly rested, was last week arrested and charged with forging the said letter, confessed the forgery and committed suicide. General Boisdeffre, chief of the general staff of the French army, has resigned and French military circles are shaken to the center. It seems that a new trial must be granted, and that revelations may occur which will compromise Germany and bring on war between Germany and France. The whole world has felt that the former trial of Dreyfus was a farce in which all evidence in his favor was suppressed so as not to compromise French officers. "The truth is mighty and will prevail." No such travesty of justice, we believe, could occur either in the civil or military courts of the United States.

The Household.

CONDUCTED BY MRS. ELLA E. ROCKWOOD.

We should be pleased to have any of our readers who take an interest in household topics send in their views and opinions upon any subject which is under discussion, or which they wish discussed. The invitation is general, and we hope to see it accepted by many. Address all letters for The Household to Mrs. Ella E. Rockwood, Flint, Mich.

For The Michigan Farmer.
MEMORIES.

I fold the quiet little hands,
No soft touch answers mine;
Just o'er the farther border-lands
Where gates of marble shine,
I seem to see a childish form
Stand watching there for me—
The loving touch of fingers warm
Is but a memory.

I smooth away the golden curls
Where gleams like sunshine lay,
My tear-drops deck, like living pearls,
The tiny form of clay.
Soon, soon these rings of silken hair
Will all be hid from me;
Their glints of gold now here, now there,
Will be but memory.

I look into the shadowed eyes,
Their violet light all shed
And dull, like twilight's azure skies,
Whence day's last gleam has fled.
I close the lids and hide away
The tender blue I'll see
Ever before me each sad day—
But just in memory.

Dear little one! your pretty ways
Will cheer my aching heart
No more; but in the long, long days
That keep us far apart—
There'll ever be this thought divine:
Tho' far away from me
In Heaven, my darling, you're still mine,
Though but in memory.

NETTIE POTTS.

HOME CHATS WITH FARMERS' WIVES.

SLIGHTING HOUSEWORK.

When it comes to "slighting" housework, it depends altogether upon who does it, whether the practice is to be commended or not. If the house mistress has every step to take, every task to do unaided, then she is surely justified in studying the best way of making her work easier, and if she wishes to fold her sheets, pillow-slips, coarse towels, etc., from the line and put them away without ironing, or in other ways save herself unnecessary labor, I admire her good sense in doing so. If she chooses to devote the extra moments thus gained to reading, fancy work, a nap, or a walk to the woods, there is no doubt of the benefit the rest will afford her. But where there are daughters, the mother should be careful lest they contract the habit of slighting their work. It is one thing to have mother do it, but quite different when it comes to the girls. A girl whose mother allows her to do her work in a careless manner while young, will in nine cases out of ten carry the habit with her through life and perform all her tasks in a like manner. It is best to insist upon the young doing their work well. "Whatever is worth doing is worth doing well," is a good motto.

When there is a hired girl in the kitchen a little license in regard to saving work may result disastrously. She may not have judgment to enable her to discriminate, or may be quick to take advantage of an opportunity. Once a precedent is established, it is sometimes difficult to retrace one's steps. Caution is advisable in recommending anything less than thorough performance of every duty.

It is sometimes recommended that less time be spent in preparing the meals during hot weather, and while this would result in considerable extra rest for the one who prepares them, it is doubtful if much curtailment in the customary menu would be satisfactory, after all. Surely if there is ever a time when farm folks need plenty of good, nourishing food, and this of a tempting nature, too, it is when the energies are spurred to greatest effort and the body worn with physical strain. Give the workmen something good to eat every day. Make as great a variety as possible. If unable to provide fresh meat frequently, draw on the poultry yard. Chicken is relished fully as much as beef, and is much easier to get. The majority of farmers do not avail themselves of this source of supply as much as they should. They depend on the pork barrel or the meat market too much.

I believe in saving ourselves work where we can, but not in depriving our families of plenty of good, palatable food because it is some extra effort to prepare it in hot weather.

Vegetables in variety are a wonderful help-out in preparing meals. With his own pork and beef, the poultry yard and its products, and a good garden, it should not cost the farmer very much to furnish his table, outside of tea, coffee and sugar. We ought to be the best fed class of people on earth. If we are not it is our own fault.

HOT CORN.

"Hot corn, hot corn,
Who buys hot corn?"

It was Saturday night, Mrs. Baker and her son sat down to their evening meal.

"I wish I could take the paper for you," said she; "but it's all we can do to live."

As she spoke both raised their eyes to the window. An elegant equipage passed, a woman, and a boy about the age of Earle Baker.

"I suppose Roy Weyler has all the books and papers he wants," Earle remarked.

"So should you if I could give them to you."

Earle turned to his supper of hot hulled corn and milk. "Well, he won't have such a supper as this, anyway."

His mother thought about it after Earle was tucked into his trundle bed. Not long ago she had been left a widow, with a miniature "run out" farm for support. For the child's mental good she longed for more than a pittance—he was an omnivorous reader, and an organ was his day dream. Roy Weyler's supper haunted her that evening, and before she slept her plans were made. Her farm was "let out on shares" to a thrifty neighbor. The chief crop was yellow Indian corn, as sweet as the red man's friend, Mondamin. For her own eating she hulled it with cooking soda, but the lye from wood ashes would be more economical in boiling a greater quantity. Earle could bring her pails and pails of spring water for its rinsing.

When Saturday came round again it found her and Earle on their road to B—, a town large enough to be a city, whose borders, three miles away, were skirted by farms, her own among the rest. She had some acquaintances in the town. To them she first offered her steaming corn, looking the gentlewoman that she was, in her quiet black. It sold readily, and more was engaged for the Saturday following. "We haven't any milk to eat with it," was the objection oftenest met; "we have other uses for our daily supply." So her top buggy had to be exchanged for the stout, easy-riding market wagon, that would accommodate both milk cans and the mammoth tank that kept the corn hot. After that first day, Earle could have delivered both corn and milk to the customers, but she would not jeopardize his innocence alone in the teeming mart. She accompanied him regularly, sitting in the wagon while he called at every house. Moolly was given a companion in barn and pasture, and when the year was out Earle was owner of an organ and the boy's paper he had coveted.

He is a young man now, and under his direction the hired man raises larger corn crops than the old farm yielded of yore. He markets corn and milk thrice a week, and Mrs. Baker feels that no risk is ventured when he drives off alone.

L. L. TROTT.

CUCUMBER PICKLES AGAIN.

It is a little late in the season for recipes for cucumber pickles, but here is something new in this line which we find in The Housekeeper. A writer in that periodical says: "I select cucumbers of an even size and place them in jars, then cover them with molasses and soft water in the proportion of one quart of molasses to three quarts of soft water. I mix this well before pouring it over the cucumbers, place a weight over the cucumbers and set the jar out doors where it is partly shaded. I allow it to remain until the liquid has soured into vinegar. Then set the jar where it is to remain through the winter. Sometimes I add a few red peppers and spices. My pickles are green, solid, crisp, evenly put up, and always ready for the table."

A raw potato freshly cut and rubbed over a wart several times a day will cause it to disappear.

D. D.—There is nothing equal to the Magic dye scarlet for the purpose you speak of, it is brilliant and fast.

THE EVOLUTION OF THE OLD MAID.

It has been said in these columns that there is not so much terror in the prospect of old-maidhood as there used to be. This may be, for it is true that some old maids have done remarkable things for the world. One might be glad to figure in such company.

Look at the list! Elizabeth of England, one of the most illustrious of modern sovereigns. Her rule over Great Britain certainly comprised the most brilliant literary age of the English-speaking people. Her political acumen was certainly put to as severe tests as that of any other ruler the world ever saw.

Maria Edgeworth was an old maid. It was this woman's writings that first suggested the thought of writing similarly to Sir Walter Scott. Her brain might be called the mother of the Waverley Novels. Jane Porter lived and died an old maid. The list might be increased, but in spite of this illustrious ancestry, I do not consider bachelor-girlism any source of congratulation, even if I am one of the so-called "unappropriated blessings" myself.

Talk all one may, public sentiment is not ready to cry "bravo" when the spinster is mentioned. The maiden lady is always the pointed out one. Take for instance the title. The male bled after he leaves short pants is called Mr., while the female is called Miss until her marriage when she has a title of more dignity. If one does not marry the title sticks.

Have you ever watched the expression on a person's face when an old maid is introduced? I have; and it is a combination of surprise, pity and doubt.

Mrs. Josiah Allen says: "There are two kinds of old maids: Those that could and wouldn't, and those that would but couldn't." I venture the assertion that the majority in your opinion belong to the "would but couldn't." It's not these daily little rubs that come in the evolution of the old maid that cause the most sorrow. The charge is made that the old maid is exclusive, sour, unsociable. Did you ever consider in this day of cliques what crowd she gets invited with? There are the young people, the young married people, and the older people. She gets left unless invited as a chaperon for the young. She can't be a society lady unless she has lots of money.

Then, she is charged with being disappointed in love. I'll acknowledge she is; but I honestly believe it is, nine cases out of ten, in the love of friends (lady friends) of her younger days, who as soon as they marry let new interests crowd her out. They marry and go away or join the other set, and those friends who vowed eternal friendship seldom remember the old in the new. So the old maid drifts along! Welcomed only where she can pay her way, forgotten by old friends, not sought by new.

Not everyone can be a Queen Bess or a Frances Willard. If you are a "kite" yourself you may, like Miss Willard, refuse to be the tail to a kite. Of course there are lots of unhappy marriages, but the same person might be unhappy anywhere—doubly so if single. People do not always assimilate in any condition of life.

Can you sympathize with the woman who said: "I care not whether he be fool or knave, only so I have Mrs. written on my grave?" For say what

you will, it's not very pleasant and is somewhat of a disgrace to be an old maid.

OLE MAYED.

TOMATOES.

August and September are the tomato months, and each year finds this vegetable increasing in favor. Some people, it is true, do not care for them in any form, but taken generally, they are deservedly popular.

One way of serving them which is new in our family is tomato hash. To make this, cut sufficient ripe tomatoes in small pieces to make a cup full. Add pepper and salt to taste, and stew until soft. Add a generous tablespoonful of butter and allow to cook quite dry, then stir in a cupful of chopped cold meat (of any kind, except fat pork), season with salt and pepper to taste, and when thoroughly hot add half a cup or more of bread crumbs and sweet cream to make slightly moist.

Tomato soup is delicious, and not half appreciated by country folk. A good recipe calls for one quart of stewed tomatoes, well cooked and put through a sieve to remove seeds. Season with cayenne and salt, and return to the fire. Add a pinch of soda, and when it ceases to foam pour in one quart of rich milk; bring quickly to a boil, and thicken with a tablespoonful of flour or cornstarch, dissolved in a little water same as for gravy. Some add a little sugar, but this is optional. Serve with wafers or with tiny squares of toasted or fried bread.

It is not generally known that it is an improvement over the common way of serving sliced tomatoes, to cover them with mayonnaise or other salad dressing. Serve very cold on small plates.

Tomato pickles are in good demand during winter. We make sweet ones in this way: Slice green tomatoes and let stand over night with a sprinkling of salt between layers. Drain in the morning, and put directly into sweetened and spiced vinegar, and cook carefully until tender, but do not allow them to fall to pieces.

A sweet pickle of ripe tomatoes is made by slicing the tomatoes, after removing the skins, and cooking in a porcelain kettle, with half their weight of brown sugar and cinnamon cloves and spice to taste, using a quart of vinegar to every seven pounds of tomatoes. Cook till thick.

My recipe for picadilli calls for a peck of green tomatoes, one large head of cabbage, one dozen onions. Chop fine, add one pint of salt and let stand over night. Drain well and scald in weak vinegar. Drain from this and stir in mixed spices. Cover with hot vinegar sweetened in the proportion of one cup sugar to two quarts vinegar and put away in earthen jars or glass cans.

For supper we are fond of green tomatoes or those partly ripe, fried. Cut in slices, dip in cracker crumbs, then in beaten egg, again in cracker crumbs, and fry in butter until brown. The clipping in egg may be omitted and simply roll the pieces in the crumbs, but the former way makes them a little nicer.

Gratiot County.

AUGUSTA.

The Household editor has in her possession a letter for Mrs. E. A. J., of Gratiot county, who wrote the letter over that name in these columns April 16, 1898. If the lady will send on her full address the letter will be forwarded.

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HOW MAKE FARM LIFE MORE PLEASANT TO BOYS AND GIRLS?

(Paper read by Cora Lessing at St. Clair Co. Farmers' Institute.)

This is a subject worth much consideration. Let us ask, do we appreciate our homes? How often we do not until the shadow of sorrow falls upon them. The vacant chair by the fireside tells its own story of a wanderer from the home circle, or the grass covered mound in the burial ground tells of one who has passed forever from us. Oh the bitter tears, the heartaches and sad regrets their memory brings to us, when we realize alas, too late, where we might have been more gentle and forbearing with their faults, seeing only their good qualities, and in so doing made home more pleasant to them. How often we have spoken unkind words that left a sting behind them, wounding the heart of one whom we love! But through our carelessness and selfishness we go blindly on, thinking because they are our own we are privileged to say unkind words. Do not let us reserve the word of praise, the kind thought and deed for the guest and stranger within our gates. Give them to our dear ones while they are with us, for when beyond recall we will suffer many sad regrets for our thoughtlessness.

Let us stop and think a moment. Are we rushing along in a mad desire to accumulate money and lands, taking no thought of the claims our children have upon us, letting ambition take the place of home and God, or at best giving them but secondary thoughts? If so, it is time to stop and say, while we live let us live, not simply exist. Let us get out of life the most there is in it, grasping every opportunity to make some life the brighter, that the world may be better for our having lived in it. Is it not better for the children to have the memory of a bright, attractive home than an inheritance burdened with the memory that it was gained by hard, unrelenting toil, where father and mother were too tired to join the young people in the evening pastimes, or perhaps censured them for some outburst of youthful merriment which jars upon the tired nerves?

Do not spend all of your waking hours in ceaseless toil, but give an hour each day in quiet thought or in acquiring a bit of knowledge. If on a farm a short time given to the study and contemplation of nature will prove elevating and restful. The home may be lacking in those advantages which would have a tendency to develop the higher faculties and create a love of home. The absence of good reading, musical instruments and amusing games are sometimes accounted for on the plea, "We can't afford them;" but can you afford to have your boy hanging around the lounging counter or spending his evenings in the saloon or at the gaming table? The young mind craves companionship and pleasure, and if it is not found in the home

It is not necessary to have wealth in order to have a home of comfort and beauty. A little ingenuity and an eye for beauty will do much toward the furnishing of a home. Study the tastes and individuality of each inmate of the home and arrange the home accordingly. Make the evenings so pleasant and attractive that the boys will not think of spending them away from home. Have good newspapers and other periodicals; some musical instruments, where talent is manifest. With these the evenings will never drag. Parents should be made to realize the importance of furnishing the children with good, pure and instructive reading, and amusing games, of joining in their pleasures, of securing their confidence, keeping them busy, interested and within their reach. Then they would rarely go astray. Surely the cost of these is small compared to the sorrows that may come if we neglect to make the home bright and attractive. The whole future of the child depends to a great extent upon what the home life has been. As the children leave the home and go into the world, what tender memories cling to them, even after they make homes of their own. No matter how happy they may be, their thoughts will often wander back to the days spent at home together. If you have been kind and forbearing with their faults, firm in your convictions of right and demanding implicit obedience in everything that is right and true, providing them with good books and innocent pleasures, sowing a knowledge of good literature, and

creating a love of elevating pleasures, they will live up to the standard you have placed before them and you will never have cause to worry regarding the future of your children.

Few realize the influence upon the lives of the children the home has. It rules their lives for weal or woe. Make the homes more bright and happy and the world will surely grow purer and better.

SOME TESTED RECIPES.

I want to tell the Household sisters my rule for putting cucumbers in vinegar for pickles to keep all winter, for mixed pickles with mustard dressing, for graham bread and for cream cookies.

For three-gallon jar of pickles take one gallon cider vinegar, one teacupful coarse salt, one teaspoonful fine alum and about one-third of five cents' worth of mixed spices. After picking the cucumbers cover with boiling water and let stand over night or one day, then wash, drain, and put in the prepared vinegar. When you have the jar full put grape or horseradish leaves on top.

Mixed Pickles.—One quart of little cucumbers; one quart of small onions; one quart of green tomatoes cut in quarters, and a head of cauliflower divided into small pieces. If you do not have all of them then use what you

have. Put in brine 24 hours (one cup salt to one gallon of water), then cook tender and drain. Take two quarts vinegar, one teacupful sugar, and put on stove to boil. When boiling stir in six tablespoonfuls mustard, one cup flour and one-half of five cents' worth of turmeric mixed smooth in a little water. (Just as you would make milk gravy). When boiled pour over the pickles, then thoroughly mix and put in cans while hot. The dressing is good to eat on meat.

Graham Bread.—Two cups of sweet milk, two and one-half cups of graham flour, one cup of white flour, one teaspoonful soda, one teaspoonful salt, and one-half cup molasses. Put in a basin and steam one hour, then bake five minutes. I usually put it to steam at ten o'clock, then it will be warm enough for dinner at half past eleven or twelve.

Cream Cookies.—One and a half cups of granulated sugar, one cup thick sour cream, one-half cup butter, one egg, one teaspoonful soda, with flour to roll out. Season to taste. Quick oven.

I enjoy the Household Chats and the letters from all.

MARION.

CONTRIBUTED RECIPES.

Broiled Ham and Eggs.—Slice ham thinly and trim off superfluous fat. Freshen in cold water if necessary,

and dry each slice on a cloth before broiling. Heat a common bread toaster (or a regular broiler) and broil the ham over a clear fire until done. Lay on a platter and on each slice place an egg cooked in this way:

Melt a tablespoonful of butter in a perfectly flat-bottomed frying pan. Place carefully in it the required number of eggs and cover with a cover which fits so tightly that no steam can escape. One that fits in the bottom rather than lays over the top is best, like a pie tin inverted. Set over the fire and in a minute or so the eggs will be covered with white, cooked to a turn by the steam.

AUGUSTA.

Tomato Toast.—Cut fine one bowlful of ripe tomatoes and cook till soft. Season with cayenne pepper, salt and a tablespoonful of butter. Stir in a pinch of soda, then add a cupful of milk that is half cream and when it boils up stir in very quickly a tablespoonful of flour made smooth in a little of the milk, and pour over thin slices of toasted bread.

Filint.

MRS. S.

Remember that in waiting at table everything should be passed at the left of the person served where he is to help himself from the dish, and placed at the right where it is set down, as with tea, coffee or soup.

OUR TWO PUBLICATIONS BALANCE OF THE YEAR



FOR TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

We will mail THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, beginning with the next issue (October number), to January 1, 1899, also THE SATURDAY EVENING POST, every week, from the time subscription is received to January 1, 1899, for Twenty-five Cents, for the purpose of introducing our weekly with our well-known monthly.

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The Curtis Publishing Company, Philadelphia

Legal Department.

CONDUCTED BY EARL D. BABST,
56 Moffat Building, Detroit.

Condemning land for school site.—C. B. G., Niles, Mich.—A buys 40 acres of land. Previous to purchase a lease for a school site was given for 50 years. Said lease expires soon. B claims that he will take possession at the expiration of the lease. District has erected a good building. What is the manner of procedure for the district to hold the site?—It will be necessary to institute condemnation proceedings, under chapter viii, secs. 89-103, General School Laws, as compiled by superintendent of public instruction, 1897. As the proceeding is technical and will require legal aid in any event, we omit the various steps in the procedure.

Bicycle rider not liable for damages caused by runaway.—X. Y. Z., Kalamazoo Co., Mich.—If a horse gets scared at a bicycle and runs away, can the bicycle rider be compelled to pay for damage to horse, carriage and passengers?—No. The bicycle rider was lawfully on the road, using lawful and legitimate means of locomotion, and it was the misfortune of the owner of the horse that his animal became frightened at other objects on the road. If a horse became frightened at a load of hay passing along the highway, you would not hold the owner liable for damages. The bicycle is in the same class as other vehicles, and has the same rights in the highway.

Lien for alimony is not discharged by subsequent remarriage of the parties.—G. H. T., Sunfield, Mich.—1. Wife obtains divorce from husband and is granted \$2,000 alimony, for which she levies on his real estate. Subsequently they remarry. Can she enforce lien and also hold dower interest in same property?—Yes. At the time of levy they were not husband and wife, and her levy is not effected because of subsequent marriage, which is a new contract carrying new obligations, among them wife's dower right. She is entitled to both. 2. We do not answer questions of domestic infelicity. However, a wife cannot steal from her husband, for in the eye of the law, they are one person. Neither can you hold third person who assists wife in removing husband's property.

Statute for protection of owners of stallions.—D. T. P., New Hudson, Mich.—The owner or keeper of a stallion has, after demand upon the owner of the mare for the price agreed upon for service, a lien on the get of such stallion for a period of six months after the birth of the foal for the payment of the service of such stallion. No benefit can be had from this statute where the owner or keeper has in any way fraudulently misrepresented to the owner of the dam as to the breeding of the stallion. The owner or keeper of the stallion, in order to obtain and perfect such lien, shall at any time after such demand within the period included between the rendition of such service by any stallion and when the colt is foaled, file with the township clerk in the township wherein the dam is owned, the agreement, or a true copy thereof, entered into by the owner of the dam for such service, together with such description of the dam as to age, color, or other marks, as the person filing such agreement is able to give. Upon the filing of such an agreement, together with the description of the dam, the same operates in all respects as a chattel mortgage during the six months after the birth of the foal, and the lien thus created may be collected, enforced and discharged the same as chattel mortgages. There are no printed blanks of lien that we know of. No exact form is necessary.

Duty to maintain partition fences.—C. D. and C. T., Decatur, Mich.—Supposing A and B own adjoining farms. A keeps no stock and has no fences. B is a stock raiser. The question is, can B compel A to build line fences which would in no way benefit A? If A refuses to build fences can he collect damages for crops destroyed by B's stock?—These are questions which have caused considerable dispute though no trouble, and we thought perhaps we could get the technicalities of the law.—B can compel A to erect his share of partition fence.

If A does not maintain his partition fences, after it has been determined that he should maintain them, he cannot recover damages for trespass of B's stock? These are questions of the statutes covering your position in a decision by Judge Cooley: "The purposes of its provisions (fence statute) was to compel every person to discharge his duty in regard to partition fences, at the peril of such losses as he might suffer from depredations committed in consequence of his neglect by the beasts of those persons to whom the duty was owing. What was that duty will appear from statutory provisions. Howell's Statutes, sec. 797, provides that the respective occupants of lands inclosed with fences shall keep up and maintain partition fences between their own and the next adjoining enclosures, so long as both parties continue to improve the same. The next section provides that in case any party shall neglect to repair or rebuild any partition fence, which of right he ought to maintain, the aggrieved party may complain to the fence viewers. * * * It is very evident, under these statutory provisions, that the duty of any person to keep up a partition fence is one created by the statute in favor and for the protection of the adjoining proprietor, and that before that duty can become fixed so as to require him to keep in repair any particular portion of such partition fence, it must appear: First, that adjoining proprietor improves his land, and second, that either by consent or by the action of the fence viewers, a portion of the partition fence between them has been assigned to him to keep in repair. Adjoining owners are at liberty, if they see fit, to dispense with partition fences altogether."

The Markets.

WHEAT.

Prices have got close to bottom, and we would not be surprised to see them strengthen a little; but there is no hope for any substantial improvement at present when the situation is candidly considered. It will be well into the fall before we can look for this. The range of values is now very low, and this may lead to still lighter receipts from farmers, both in this country and abroad, and this may help matters materially. Millers are paying considerably higher prices than dealers, and yet they are not getting much grain. Foreign markets show more firmness to-day, and our local market made an advance.

The following table exhibits the daily closing sales of spot wheat in this market from August 20 to September 8.

	No. 2	No. 3	No. 1	Mixed	Mixed
	Red	Red	White	Red	White
Aug. 20.....	68	66	65	66 1/2	65
" 22.....	68 1/2	66	65	66 1/2	65
" 23.....	68 1/2	66	65	66 1/2	65
" 24.....	68	66	64	66 1/2	64
" 25.....	67 1/2	65	64 1/2	66	64
" 26.....	68	65 1/2	65	66	65
" 27.....	67 1/2	65 1/2	64 1/2	66 1/2	64
" 28.....	68 1/2	65 1/2	65	67	65 1/2
" 29.....	68 1/2	65 1/2	65	66 1/2	65 1/2
" 30.....	68 1/2	65 1/2	65	66 1/2	65 1/2
" 31.....	67 1/2	65	65	66 1/2	65 1/2
Sept. 1.....	67 1/2	65	65	66 1/2	65 1/2
" 2.....	66	63 1/2	64	65	64
" 3.....	65	63	63	64	63
" 4.....	65	63	63	64	63
" 5.....	65	63	63	64	63
" 6.....	65	63	63	64	63
" 7.....	63 1/2	61	61 1/2	62	61 1/2
" 8.....	64	62	62	63	62

The following is the record of the closing prices on the various deals in futures each day during the week:

	Friday	Saturday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Sept. Dec. May	65	63 1/2	65 1/2	65 1/2	65 1/2	65 1/2
	64 1/2	62 1/2	64 1/2	64 1/2	64 1/2	64 1/2

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada on Saturday was 7,147,000 bu, as compared with 5,277,000 bu the previous week, and 14,817,000 bu at the corresponding date in 1897. The increase for the week was 1,220,000 bu. Thoman's last report makes the wheat crop of the United States this season 665,000,000 bu.

The American Agriculturist estimates the wheat crop at 700,000,000 bu. The low prices are reflected in the increasing demand from exporters, and the activity in foreign shipments.

Local receipts in this market are lighter than at the corresponding date last year. In the Northwest, while receipts are large, they are not up to expectations. Broomhall cables as follows regarding market conditions in Great Britain: Speculation is dormant. Weather, forcing. Cheap offerings of American spring wheat depressing prices. Market decidedly "short." Danubian and Russian wheats are sparingly offered. The forecast is for fine weather in England and brilliant in France.

Three different elevator firms in the northwest were asked to give their opinions on wheat crop prospects as compared with three weeks ago. The first replied: "Thrashing returns somewhat disappointing; yield not up to expectation in many cases; weather has not been favorable for thrashing; too much rain." The second replied: "Hard to say. Thrashing not general; some places it is, in others it is not. Do not think it reaches the 1895 yield by a large majority. We have a good crop; above the average." The third said: "I think that in North Dakota you will see

a heavy movement during the month of September, but in Minnesota, particularly in older portions of the State, there is a disposition to hold, and at present prices I think the movement will be light."

DAIRY PRODUCTS.

BUTTER.

There is an active demand for all grades of good table butter in this city, and at advancing values. Receipts of choice creamery and dairy are very light, caused, it is said, by dairymen shipping direct to eastern points. We can hardly believe this, as good butter is selling higher in this market than in New York. We attribute the shortage to the severe drouth in several important dairy counties, which cut down the flow of milk from a third to one-half. The milk supply of this city is so light that many dealers have not been able to get enough for their customers. Under such conditions no wonder butter has advanced. It is likely that the general rains of the past few days will improve pastures materially, and the milk flow will assume its normal proportions. Quotations in this city are as follows: Creamery, 20¢@21¢; fancy dairy, 18¢@20¢; fair to good, 14¢@16¢; common, 12¢@13¢; low grades, 9¢@10¢. At Chicago we note a further advance, no doubt from the same conditions as have affected this market. Quotations in that market are as follows: Creameries, extras, 17¢@18¢; firsts, 16¢@17¢; seconds, 13¢@14¢; dairies, extras, 15¢; firsts, 13¢; No. 2, 12¢; ladles, extras, 12¢@13¢; packing stock, 10¢@11¢. The New York market was dull last week as the result of the intense heat, which greatly lessened the demand. There is a surplus of everything but the fancy grades, and this has caused considerable weakness. The cooler weather which is now general, with heavy rains, will no doubt be a great help to the trade, and an advance in that market is probable. Quotations on Thursday were as follows: Creamery, Western extras, per lb., 18¢; do firsts, 17 1/2¢@18¢; do thirds to seconds, 14 1/2¢@17¢; do State, extras, 17 1/2¢@18¢; do firsts, 16 1/2¢@17¢; do thirds to seconds, 14 1/2¢@16¢; Western, June, extras, 18 1/2¢@19¢; do seconds to firsts, 16¢@18¢; State dairy, half-firkin tubs, fancy, 16 1/2¢@17¢; do firsts, 15 1/2¢@16¢; do thirds to seconds, 13¢@15¢; State dairy, tins, etc., 13¢@15¢; Western imitation creamery, extras, 15 1/2¢@16¢; do firsts, 13 1/2¢@14¢; do seconds, 13¢; Western dairy, finest, 14 1/2¢@15¢; do thirds to firsts, 12¢@14¢; factory, June, extras, 14¢; do firsts, 13¢@13 1/2¢; do current packed, finest, 13 1/2¢@13 1/2¢; do seconds, 12 1/2¢; do lower grades, 11 1/2¢@12¢. At Elgin on Monday sales were made at 15¢, the same price as ruled the previous week. The market closed very firm, with everything sold.

CHEESE.

No change has occurred in this market since a week ago. Quotations still range at 9¢@9 1/2¢ for the best full creams, with a steady demand for that grade. There is no improvement to note in the Chicago market, either in the demand or in prices, and there is nothing in the present outlook favorable to any immediate change. Quotations in that market are as follows: Young Americas, 8¢@8 1/2¢; twins, 7 1/2¢@8¢; cheddars, 7¢@7 1/2¢; Swiss 9¢@10¢; limburger, 6¢@7¢; brick, 6¢@8¢. The New York market has not improved during the week. On the contrary, it has ruled dull and weak. The extremely hot weather affected it very unfavorably. The New York Tribune says of the market: "Fancy white cheese has sold better than colored all the week, with the tone a trifle steadier than colored. Undergrades of both white and colored have suffered severely, and sellers have been largely at the mercy of shippers, with large sales of usually fancy factories at 6 1/2¢@7¢. Small sizes have been in excessive supply, and, with stocks accumulating, prices have ruled weak and irregular. Holders generally asked 8¢ at the close of last week for perfect quality of most desirable sizes, but the price was extreme toward the close of last week, and some business was done at 7 1/2¢. This week the market opened very dull for both large and small sizes, and no indications of any improvement." Quotations in that market on Thursday were as follows: State, full cream, large, colored or white, fancy, per lb., 7 1/2¢@7 3/4¢; do, large, colored or white, choice, 7 1/4¢; do, good to prime, 6 1/2¢@7¢; do, common to fair, 6¢@6 1/2¢; do, small, colored, fancy, 7 1/4¢; do, white, fancy, 7 1/4¢; do, good to choice, 7 1/4¢; do, common to fair, 6¢@6 1/2¢; light skims, small, choice, 6 1/4¢@6 1/2¢; do, large, choice, 5 1/2¢@6¢; do, large, choice, 5 1/2¢@5 3/4¢; do, good to prime, 4 1/2¢@5¢; do, common to fair, 2 1/2¢@3 1/2¢; full skims, 2¢. At Liverpool this week the market for American cheese is quoted at 38s 6d for colored, and 37s 6d for white per cwt of 112 lb—the prices as reported a week ago.

DETROIT PRODUCE MARKET.

Detroit, September 8, 1898.

FLOUR.—Quotations on jobbers' lots in barrels are as follows:

Straights.....	\$3.50
Clear.....	3.25
Patent Michigan.....	3.00
Low Grade.....	3.00
Rye.....	3.00

CORN.—The visible supply of this grain on Saturday last in the United States and Canada was 16,854,000 bu as compared with 15,530,000 bu the previous week, and 31,220,000 bu at the corresponding date in 1897. Quotations in this market are as follows: No. 2, 31¢; No. 3, 31¢; No. 2, yellow, 32¢; No. 3 yellow, 32¢ per bu. Market steady.

WHEAT.—The visible supply of this grain in the United States and Canada on Saturday last was 7,147,000 bu, as compared with 5,277,000 bu the previous week, and 14,817,000 bu at the corresponding date in 1897. Quotations in this market are as follows: No. 2 white spot, 24¢; September delivery, 23 1/2¢; No. 3 white, 23¢ per bu.

RYE.—The visible supply of this grain in the United States and Canada on Saturday last was 659,000 bu, as compared with 423,000 bu the previous week, and 2,334,000 bu at the corresponding date in 1897. Selling at 45¢ per bu.

CLOVER SEED.—Prime spot, 33.30 per bu; October delivery, 33.70. Alsike, prime, 45¢ per bu.

TIMOTHY SEED.—Quoted at \$1.25 per bu for prime.

FEED.—Bran, 13¢; coarse middlings,

\$13.50; fine middlings, 15¢; cracked corn, 55¢; coarse cornmeal, 14¢; corn and oat chow, 13¢ per ton in jobbing lots.

BEANS.—For October delivery \$1.05 is asked.

MELONS.—Watermelons quoted at 10¢@15¢ per hundred; osage, 75¢@1.00 per bbl.

APPLES.—Quoted at \$1.00@1.50 per bbl for fair to good.

PLUMS.—Selling at 60¢@75¢ per bu, and in large supply.

PEACHES.—Yellow, good to choice, 1.25¢@1.50 per bu; white, 50¢@1 per bu.

PEARS.—Bartlett's, 50¢@60¢ per bu; common, 30¢@40¢ per bu.

GRAPES.—Concord, 12¢@15¢ per 8-lb basket; Niagara, 20¢@30¢ per 8-lb basket; Delaware, 20¢@25¢ per 5-lb basket.

CABBAGE.—Quoted at \$3¢@4 per 100 by jobbers, and 35¢@40¢ per dozen on farmers' market.

POTATOES.—Selling at 40¢@50¢ per bu by jobbers, and 55¢@60¢ from farmers' wagons.

EGGS.—Fresh receipts, 11¢ per dozen; candled, 12¢.

LIVE POULTRY.—Spring chickens, 7 1/2¢@8¢; fowls, 6 1/2¢@7¢; ducks, 8¢; geese, 6 1/2¢@7¢; turkeys, 8¢ per lb.

BALED HAY AND STRAW.—Best timothy, in car lots, 88¢ per ton; rye straw, \$1.50; oat straw, \$1.50.

WOOL.—Nominal quotations in interior markets are as follows: Unwashed fine, 14¢@15¢; washed fine, 19¢@20¢; unwashed medium, 19¢@20¢; washed medium, 22¢@25¢ per lb.

HIDES.—Quotations are as follows: No 1 green, 7 1/2¢; No 2 green, 6 1/2¢; No 1 cured, 9¢; No 2 cured, 8¢; No 1, green, calf, 10¢; No 2 green, calf, 8 1/2¢; No 1 kip, 7 1/2¢; No 2 kip, 8¢; sheepskins as to wool, 90¢@1.25; shearlings, 12¢@20¢.

PROVISIONS.—Mess pork, lard and bacon are lower; no other changes. Quotations are as follows: Mess pork, \$9.25 per bbl; short cut mess, \$11.50; short clear, \$11; compound lard, 5¢; family lard, 6¢; kettle lard, 6 1/2¢; smoked hams, 8¢@8 1/2¢; bacon, 8¢@8 1/2¢; shoulders, 6¢; picnic hams, 6¢ per pound.

COFFEE.—Market steady and unchanged. Quotations are as follows: Roasted Rio, ordinary, 9¢; fair, 11¢; Santos, good, 14¢; choice, 18¢; Maracaibo, 20¢@25¢; Java, 26¢@30¢; Mocha, 28¢@32¢.

OILS.—Linseed and extra lard oil are higher. No other changes. Quotations are as follows: Raw linseed, 35¢; boiled linseed, 36¢ per gal, less 1¢ for cash in ten days; extra lard oil, 46¢; No 1 lard oil, 30¢; water white kerosene, 8 1/2¢; fancy grade, 11 1/2¢; deodorized stove gasoline, 8 1/2¢; turpentine, 3 1/2¢ per gal in bbl lots.

HARDWARE.—No changes have occurred since a week ago. Quotations are as follows: Wire nails, \$1.55; steel cut nails, \$1.50 per cwt, new card; axes, single bit, bronze, \$5; double bit, bronze, \$8.50; single bit, solid steel, \$4; double bit, solid steel, \$8.50 per doz; bar iron, \$1.35; carriage bolts 75 per cent off list; tire bolts, 70 and 10 per cent off list; painted barbed wire, \$1.65; galvanized, \$1.35 per cwt; single and double strength glass, 80 and 30 per cent off new list; sheet iron, No 21, \$2.50 per cwt; galvanized, 75 and 10 per cent off list; No 9 annealed wire, \$1.45 rates.

DETROIT LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Michigan Central Stock Yards.

Thursday, September 8, 1898.

CATTLE.

Receipts Thursday, 451, as compared with 499 one year ago. The quality averaged about the same. Market active and unchanged from prices paid one week ago. \$4.70 was top price to-day for 22 good butcher steers av 1060 lbs, and \$4.50 for steers av 960 lbs, but the bulk changed hands at prices ranging from \$3.30 to \$4.00; fair to good butcher cows, \$2.85 to \$3.75; canners and common, \$2.00 to \$2.75; bulls, \$2.75 to \$3.25; feeders and stockers, \$3.00 to \$4.20. Veal Calves—Receipts, 98, one week ago, 91; active at \$5.00 to \$6.50 per 100 lbs. Milch cows and springers active at \$28.00 to \$48.00 each.

Bergen & T sold Mich Beef Co 2 fat cows av 1175 at \$3.50, 4 heifers av 720 at \$3.00, and 2 steers to Major av 900 at \$4.00.

Spicer & M sold Clancy 2 cows av 1110 at \$2.70 and a canner weighing 1020 at \$2.00. Hogan sold Farnum 4 stockers av 655 at \$3.70 and bull weighing 680 at \$2.75.

Reason sold Mich Beef Co 3 cows av 1063 at \$3.00 and 3 mixed butchers to June av 630 at \$3.10.

Dennis sold Sullivan 22 good butcher steers av 1060 at \$4.70.

Mayer sold Schleicher 5 mixed butchers av 553 at \$3.85, a bull weighing 950 at \$3.00, and a cow to Marx weighing 1230 at \$3.50.

G J Smith sold Sullivan 2 bulls av 825 at \$3.00, a steer weighing 790 at \$3.60, and 2 heifers av 685 at \$3.60.

McHugh sold Mason 3 mixed butchers av 563 at \$4.00, and a cow weighing 850 at \$3.00.

Hogan sold McIntyre 2 heifers at 650 at \$3.50.

Young sold Mason 3 stockers av 656 at \$3.75, a steer to Mich Beef Co weighing 1070 at \$4.00, and 2 cows av 1270 at \$3.40; 2 heifers to McIntyre av 540 at \$3.25, and 1 do weighing 680 at \$3.40.

Payne sold Sullivan 36 mixed stockers av 631 at \$3.65.

Ackley sold same 6 steers av 963 at \$4.00, a bull weighing 1040 at \$3.00, and 3 mixed butchers to Black av 1073 at \$3.60.

Payne sold Black 2 bulls av 1200 at \$3.00, 2 cows av 1141 at \$3.25, and 8 heifers av 607 at \$3.65; 5 stockers to Sullivan av 572 at \$3.60; 1 light butcher to McIntyre av 588 at \$3.37 1/2.

Bellmer sold June 5 mixed butchers av 730 at \$3.60, 2 steers to Sullivan av 700 at \$3.70 at \$3.70, a bull weighing 1,190 at \$3 and a cow weighing 980 at \$3.

McHugh sold Schleicher 3 mixed butchers av 710 at \$3.15.

Roe & Holmes sold Robinson 9 mixed butchers av 706 at \$4, 2 steers av 770 at \$4.15, 3 mixed butchers av 830 at \$3, 3 do av 726 at \$3.60 and a cow weighing 900 at \$3, 4 stockers to Farnum av 557 at \$3.60 and 2 do to Park Davis & Co av 490 at \$3.30.

Weitzel sold Mich Beef Co 8 steers av 800 at \$4, a heifer weighing 530 at \$3.50 and 8 steers to Mason av 723 at \$3.75.

R. Thompson sold W. Kammen 4 stockers av 690 at \$3.40.

Clark sold Mason 2 stockers av 490 at \$3 and 2 mixed butchers to Mich Beef Co av 920 at \$3.50.

H H Howe sold Mich Beef Co 2 mixed av 930 at \$2.80 and 20 steers and heifers av 651 at \$3.80.

Rook sold Mich Beef Co 2 bulls av 885 at \$3.

Hogan sold Schleicher 11 mixed butchers av 620 at \$3.35.

Spicer & M sold McIntyre 8 mixed butchers av 550 at \$3.25, a bull weighing 608 at \$3.65; also a bull to Mason weighing 610 at \$2.85, and 13 stockers to Newton av 990 at \$2.90.

Major sold Mich Beef Co 13 steers av 668 at \$3.55, 1 do weighing 960 at \$4.50, a cow weighing 1070 at \$3.50, and 7 heifers av 621 at \$3.85.

Estep sold same 10 mixed butchers av 762 at \$3.85, 3 bulls to Mason av 783 at \$3 and 4 steers av 682 at \$3.60.

Spicer & M sold Fry 19 mixed butchers av 563 at \$3.35, a cow weighing 850 at \$3.25 and 11 mixed butchers to Kammien av 648 at \$3.30, also 5 cows and oxen to Mich Beef Co av 1,325 at \$3.35.

Murphy sold Sullivan 3 bulls av 616 at \$3. MacLaren sold Sullivan 3 mixed butchers av 553 at \$3.50, a bull weighing 740 at \$3, and a canner weighing 1,050 at \$2.

Patrick sold Sullivan 5 mixed av 752 at \$3.65.

SHEEP AND LAMBS.

Receipts, Thursday, 845; one week ago, 720. Market active and about steady with last week's prices. Range: Good lambs, \$5.20 to \$5.50; light to good, \$4.90 to \$5.15; yearlings and good mixed lots, \$4.00 to \$4.80; fair to good mixed butchers, \$3.00 to \$3.90; culls and common, \$2.20 to \$2.90.

Sweet sold Monaghan 14 culls av 84 at \$2.30, and 9 yearlings av 96 at \$4.00.

Roe & Holmes sold Robinson 97 lambs av 64 at \$5.25, 25 yearlings av 95 at \$4.00, 33 lambs to Mich Beef Co av 58 at \$5.25, 20 do to Young av 62 at \$5.35, and 33 do to Monaghan av 63 at \$5.35.

Spicer & M sold Mich Beef Co 19 mixed av 113 at \$4.00, 40 buck lambs av 77 at \$5.25, and 90 do av 67 at \$5.15.

Stead sold Monaghan 140 mixed av 71 at \$4.10.

Hawley sold Fitzpatrick 31 mixed av 101 at \$4.30.

Thompson sold Harland 7 lambs av 90 at \$5.40.

Sharp sold Hiser 16 culls av 57 at \$2.65.

Burden sold Fitzpatrick 59 lambs av 66 at \$5.25.

Clark sold same 60 most lambs av 65 at \$5.12.

Weitzel sold Young 26 most lambs av 89 at \$5.00.

Dennis sold same 8 yearlings av 108 at \$4.00.

HOGS.

Receipts, Thursday, 4,142, as compared with 4,235 one week ago. There is no improvement to note in quality; receipts mostly common. Market opened rather slow, later trade was fairly active at prices 5 to 10c below those paid one week ago.

Crassers and common thin hogs closed dull; several loads shipped through in first hands. Range of prices, mixed butchers, \$3.70 to \$3.90; bulk at \$3.75 to \$3.85; pigs and light mixed lots, \$3.00 to \$3.65; stags, 1-3 off; roughs, \$3.00 to \$3.25.

Ackley sold Parker, Webb & Co 10 av 233 at \$3.90.

Russell sold same 8 av 213 at \$3.85.

Sharp sold same 49 av 179 at \$3.70.

Bergen sold same 53 av 184 at \$3.70.

Dennis sold same 77 av 178 at \$3.75.

Tubbs sold same 68 av 197 at \$3.85.

Messmore sold same 44 av 199 at \$3.80.

Osmus sold same 15 av 180 at \$3.80.

Thorburn sold same 73 av 159 at \$3.75.

Weitzel sold same 79 av 202 at \$3.77.

Patrick sold same 52 av 180 at \$3.75.

Estep sold same 19 av 173 at \$3.75.

Shelton sold same 73 av 170 at \$3.75.

Spencer sold Hammond, S & Co 85 av 175 at \$3.80.

Hogan sold same 44 av 176 at \$3.70.

Bunnell sold same 70 av 171 at \$3.82.

Kalahan sold same 57 av 198 at \$3.80, and 41 av 151 at \$3.75.

Robb sold same 88 av 159 at \$3.60.

McHugh sold same 122 av 174 at \$3.75.

Lomason sold same 73 av 188 at \$3.80.

Harden sold same 58 av 168 at \$3.75.

Reason sold same 51 av 176 at \$3.70.

Roe & Holmes sold same 50 av 156 at \$3.75, 101 av 180, 68 av 218, 98 av 178 at \$3.80, 107 av 178, 99 av 175 at \$3.77, 114 av 188 at \$3.82, 31 av 189 at \$3.70, and 17 av 140 at \$3.60.

Sweet & N sold same 50 av 196 at \$3.77.

Belhimer sold same 77 av 184 at \$3.77.

Young sold same 46 av 186 at \$3.70.

Thompson sold same 30 av 113 at \$3.75.

Cropper sold same 42 av 147 at \$3.70.

Lomason sold Sullivan 67 av 128 at \$3.47.

Nichols sold same 23 av 122 at \$3.45.

Hawley sold same 35 av 148 at \$3.60.

Murphy sold same 58 av 161 at \$3.70.

Power sold same 9 av 220 at \$3.90.

Sharp sold same 10 av 115 at \$3.40.

Bunnell sold same 16 av 96 at \$3.40.

Mayer sold same 48 av 160 at \$3.67.

McLaren sold same 12 av 107 at \$3.40.

Smith sold same 17 av 148 at \$3.65.

Clark sold same 31 av 147 at \$3.50.

Rook sold E. S. Webb 30 av 149 at \$3.85.

McLaren sold same 149 av 176 at \$3.82, and 33 av 207 at \$3.85.

Friday, September 9, 1898.

CATTLE.

Receipts, Friday, 144, as compared with 23 one week ago. Market active and strong; all sold early, closing firm. \$4.50 was top price to-day for 4 steers, av 175 lbs, and \$4.25 for 6 fair quality butcher steers av 120 lbs; balance as noted. Veal calves.—Receipts, 30; one week ago, 55; active at \$5.75 to \$6.50 per 100 lbs. There is a good demand for good milch cows, but the receipts were light, and quality not very good; prices range from \$28.00 to \$47.50 each; good fresh young cows would bring \$2.50 to \$3.00 per head more.

O. M. Baker sold Mich Beef Co 3 fat cows av 1106 at \$3.30, 4 common butchers av 777 at \$2.50, a cow weighing 920 at \$3.00, 12 steers av 840 at \$1.10, and 9 heifers av 671 at \$3.60.

Farnum sold Fry 10 mixed butchers av 843 at \$3.30.

Spicer & M sold Sullivan 11 stockers av 515 at \$3.75, 2 bulls av 487 at \$3.00, 1 do weighing 460 at \$3.00, 1 do weighing 430 at \$2.85, 5 mixed stockers av 550 at \$3.00, and 16 do av 615 at \$3.50.

Roe & Holmes sold Gerow 4 stockers av 587 at \$3.90, 6 do to Sullivan av 680 at \$3.80, and a calf to Black weighing 400 at \$5.00.

Cassey sold Marx 8 mixed butchers av 867 at \$3.85.

Parsons & H sold Caplis & Co 2 cows av 1010 at \$2.85, 2 heifers av 746 at \$3.65, and 2 steers to Sullivan av 790 at \$3.85.

Miller sold Robinson 6 steers av 920 at \$4.25, and a cow weighing 1110 at \$3.50.

Lovewell sold Sullivan 5 stockers av 534 at \$3.30, a heifer weighing 480 at \$3.00, and 6 common butchers to June av 828 at \$3.50.

Fox & Bishop sold Sullivan 4 steers av 1125 at \$4.50, and 1 do weighing 750 at \$4.00.

Crassay sold Mich Beef Co a fat cow weighing 1130 at \$3.50, 1 do weighing 1040 at \$3.00, 2 canners av 945 at \$1.55, and a bull weighing 1270 at \$3.00.

Spicer & M sold Kammien 11 mixed butchers av 690 at \$3.65, a steer weighing 590 at \$3.25, 2 bulls to Sullivan av 360 at \$3.00, a stocker weighing 530 at \$3.75.

Pinkney sold Caplis & Co 4 mixed butchers at 815 at \$3.25, 9 stockers to Sullivan av 652 at \$3.75, a bull weighing 700 at \$3.00, and 2 oxen to Mich Beef Co av 1440 at \$3.00.

Roe & Holmes sold Robinson 3 bulls av 686 at \$3.00, 2 steers av 900 at \$4.25, a cow weighing 530 at \$3.50, and 2 common do av 825 at \$2.50.

SHEEP AND LAMBS.

Receipts, Friday, 469, as compared with 349 one week ago. Market active and unchanged from above quotations. All sold early, closing firm.

Finney sold Mich Beef Co 25 yearlings av 110 at \$4.25, and 70 lambs av 79 at \$5.40.

Roe & Holmes sold same 25 yearlings av 96 at \$4.00, 90 lambs av 67 at \$5.00, and 10 culls av 82 at \$2.00.

Spicer & M sold H. Robinson 8 lambs av 71 at \$5.25, and 25 lambs to Fitzpatrick av 86 at \$5.25.

Lovewell sold Sullivan Beef Co 34 lambs av 56 at \$5.10, and 8 sheep av 63 at \$3.00.

Roe & Holmes sold Mich Beef Co 30 lambs av 66 at \$5.40.

Luckie sold Fitzpatrick 54 sheep and lambs av 74 at \$4.00.

Fox & Bishop sold Sullivan Beef Co 10 yearlings av 94 at \$4.00.

HOGS.

Receipts, Friday, 2,089, as compared with 2,878 one week ago. The quality averaged better to-day. Market active; fair to good butchers 5 to 10c higher; bulk sold at \$3.55 to \$3.95; good pigs about steady; light pigs and roughs very dull—not wanted—\$3.00 to \$3.25.

Richmond sold Parker, Webb & Co 90 av 174 at \$3.87.

Harger sold same 49 av 167 at \$3.87.

Wilson sold same 12 av 201 at \$3.85.

Pinkney sold same 9 av 151 at \$3.50.

German sold same 9 av 151 at \$3.80.

Miller sold same 8 av 196 at \$3.85.

Bird sold same 9 av 155 at \$3.80.

Devine sold same 74 at 200 at \$3.85.

Luckie sold same 37 at 194 at \$3.85.

McIntulen sold same 33 av 159 at \$3.85.

Underwood sold same 55 av 174 at \$3.90.

McCloughry sold same 64 av 188 at \$3.90.

Spicer & M sold Sullivan 12 av 120 at \$3.40, and 27 av 101 at \$3.35.

Harger sold same 18 at 130 at \$3.45.

Fox & Bishop sold same 42 av 117 at \$3.40.

Cassey sold same 27 av 138 at \$3.40.

Devine sold Merch 15 pigs av 77 at \$3.10.

McDonald sold Farnum 6 av 191 at \$3.35.

Spicer & M sold Hammond, S & Co 75 av 168 at \$3.82, 63 av 186 at \$3.80, 114 av 191 at \$3.77, 82 av 172 at \$3.75.

Roe & Holmes sold same 65 at 194, 29 av 179 at \$3.90, 81 av 187 and 73 av 178 at \$3.85.

Parsons & H sold same 49 av 198 at \$3.90.

Stabler sold same 59 av 194 at \$3.90.

Leach sold same 143 av 189 at \$3.82.

Hauser sold same 157 av 172 at \$3.85.

F. W. Horner sold same 76 av 192 at \$3.90.

Miller sold same 33 av 180 at \$3.75.

Fox & Bishop sold same 161 av 191 and 58 av 174 at \$3.87.

Cassey sold same 33 av 184 at \$3.87.

OUR BUFFALO LETTER.

Enet Buffalo, September 8, 1898.

Cattle.—Receipts of cattle on Monday last were 4,400 as compared with 5,544 for the same day last week. Shipments were 3,266, as compared with 3,620 the previous week. Receipts were lighter than last week, but supplies were ample. There was a heavy supply of Canadian cattle. Market ruled steady to firm. Dry-fed fat stock steady, while thin cows and light and common shipping lots dull and 15¢ to 25¢ per hundred lower; bulls steady for good, lower for common; oxen were in light supply, and steady for good smooth lots, while thin, rough and common were slow and lower. Receipts of stockers and feeders were largest of the season. Market opened slow, declined 10 to 25¢, and then ruled active until all were closed out. The range on good to best steers was \$5.00 to \$5.35, the same as last week. Tuesday but little was done. What sales were made were at about Monday's prices. Wednesday the market was quiet and easy on all grades, the local trade taking about all that offered at Monday's closing prices. Quotations were as follows: Export and Shipping Steers.—Prime to extra choice finished steers, 1400 to 1450 lbs, \$5.25 to \$5.35; prime to choice steers, 1300 to 1400 lbs, \$5.15 to \$5.20; good to choice fat steers, 1250 to 1300 lbs, \$5.10 to \$5.15; good to choice fat smooth steers 1050 to 1250 lbs, \$4.90 to \$5.10; green, coarse and rough fat steers, 1050 to 1400 lbs, \$4.25 to \$4.75. Butchers' Native Cattle.—Fat smooth dry-fed steers, 1050 to 1150 lbs, \$4.90 to \$5.15; fat smooth dry-fed light steers, 900 to 1000 lbs, \$4.80 to \$4.90; light to fair, \$4.25 to \$4.60; green steers thin to half-fattened, 1000 to 1300 lbs, \$4.35 to \$4.60; fair to good steers, 900 to 1,000 lbs, \$4.35 to \$4.65; choice smooth fat heifers, \$4.50 to \$4.85; fair to good fat heifers, \$4.00 to \$4.40; light thin half-fat heifers, \$3.60 to \$3.90; fair to good mixed butchers' stock, \$4.00 to \$4.40; mixed lots fair to choice quality fat cows and heifers, \$3.00 to \$4.15; good, smooth, well-fattened butcher cows, \$4.00 to \$4.40; fair to good butcher cows, \$3.40 to \$3.75; common old shelly cows, \$2.25 to \$3.00; Bulls and Oxen.—Export weight bulls, fat and smooth, \$3.70 to \$3.80; good fat smooth handy weight butcher bulls, \$3.40 to \$3.65; fair to good sausage bulls, \$3.00 to \$3.35; thin, old common to extra, \$2.85 to \$3.00; stock bulls common to extra, \$2.75 to \$3.15; fat, smooth, young oxen to good lots fit for export, \$4.25 to \$4.75; fair to fairly good partly-fattened young oxen, \$3.50 to \$4.00; old common and poor oxen, \$2.50 to \$3.50. Native Stockers and Feeders.—Feeding steers, good style weight and extra quality, \$4.15 to \$4.35; feeding steers, common to only fair quality, \$3.60 to \$4.00; good quality yearling stock steers and calves, \$4.10 to \$4.25; stock heifers common to choice, \$3.00 to \$3.25; stock steers, cull grades and throw outs, \$3.25 to \$3.50.

Thursday the market was steady but rather easy.

Sheep.—Receipts of sheep and lambs on Monday last were 12,000, as compared with 10,600 the previous week. Shipments were 7,000, as compared with 6,400 the previous week. The quality of the receipts was very poor, the bulk of the lambs being bulky and undesirable, but good lots were about even in price with last week. Sheep were barely steady. The bulk of the good lambs sold at \$5.50 to \$5.75, a few selections of all choice ewes and wethers taken on orders selling up to \$6.00, but not many wanted at the price; fair to fairly good Northern Michigan bulky lambs \$5.15 to \$5.25; cull light feeding lambs, sorted to ewes and wethers, weighing 50 to 55 lbs, \$5.00 to \$5.15, with selected 60 to 65 lb feeders \$5.40 to \$5.50; cull and fair butcher lambs, \$4.00 to \$4.75; good mixed sheep, \$4.40 to \$4.60; choice all wethers quotable \$4.70 to \$4.80; cull and fair butchers' sheep, \$2.25 to \$3.75, with a fair call for breed ewes, \$4.25 to \$4.50. The market closed up dull and weak. Tuesday conditions ruled about the same as on Monday, with values rather lower. Wednesday the market ruled about steady for good ewe and wether lambs, with others easy, while sheep were also steady for all but the poorer lots of coarse and common lots. Quotations were as follows: Yearling Lambs.—Choice to extra selected, \$4.75 to \$5.00; fair to good, \$4.50 to \$4.75; culls and common grassy, \$4.00 to \$4.25. Native Sheep.—Good to fancy wethers, \$4.75 to \$4.90; good to extra mixed, \$4.50 to \$4.65; fair roughish to good ewes, \$3.50 to \$4.00; common grassy culls, \$2.25 to \$3.25. Spring Lambs.—Choice to extra ewes and wethers selected, \$5.65 to \$5.90; good to choice \$5.40 to \$5.60; good fat bulky to good lots, \$5.15 to \$5.25; culls to fair, \$4.25 to \$4.85; grassy thin culls, \$3.25 to \$4.25.

Thursday the market was active and fifteen to a quarter higher for lambs; bulk good, \$5.65 to \$6.00; others, \$4.25 to \$5.50; sheep steady and firm.

Hogs.—Receipts of hogs on Monday were 26,220, as compared with 31,160 for the same day last week. Shipments were 15,720, as compared with 21,280 for the same day last week. The market on Monday showed a falling off in the offerings as compared with the previous week, while the quality showed an improvement. The best corn-fed yorkers of 160 to 180 lbs sold at \$4.10; with the best of the mixed and medium weights of 180 to 220 lbs \$4.05 to \$4.10, mostly \$4.05 to \$4.07, with grassy and partly grassy lots of all weights, except pigs, \$3.90 to \$4.00, the latter price generally where the buyers took what they wanted out of the loads. Pigs were in fair demand and, outside of a few sorts, sold at \$3.70 to \$3.80, a few closely selected \$3.82; roughs sold lower, generally \$3.30 to \$3.50; some undesirable lots went over unsold. Tuesday the market showed no change, with values steady. Wednesday the market opened with a fairly active demand for yorkers and light grades, with others rather slow, but about steady for the good corn-fed lots; but at noon the market was easier; good to choice yorkers, 160 to 175 lbs, \$4.10 to \$4.15; prime light yorkers, \$4.10 to \$4.12; grassy and Michigan lots, \$4.00 to \$4.05; mixed packers' grades, \$4.05 to \$4.07; medium weights, 210 to 240 lbs, \$4.05 to \$4.07; heavy hogs, 250 to 300 lbs, \$4.05 to \$4.07; grassy and heavy ends, \$3.90 to \$4.00; roughs, common to good, \$3.45 to \$3.60; stags, common to choice, \$2.75 to \$3.15; pigs, good to choice, \$3.70 to \$3.85; pigs, skips, common to fair, \$2.25 to \$3.00.

The market on Thursday ruled easier; bulk of good yorkers, mediums and heavy sold at \$4.05 to \$4.10, with a few choice yorkers at \$4.12; pigs, \$3.50 to \$3.75.

THE CHICAGO MARKET.

Chicago, September 8, 1898.

Cattle.—The receipts of cattle in this market last week were 56,851, as compared with 55,816 the previous week, and 59,710 for the same week last year. On Monday good to fancy native cattle ruled steady to 10c higher, while undesirable natives and grass Westerns ruled weak to 10c lower. Texas cattle and native butcher stock ruled steady. The general trade was active, and an early clearance was made. Exporters bought freely at \$5.10 to \$5.50; native steers averaging 800 to 1,600 lbs, sold at \$4.65 to \$5.70; fed Western steers \$3.90 to \$5.45; grass Western steers \$3.40 to \$4.60, with only three or four lots above \$4.35; Western cows and heifers \$2.90 to \$4.25; grass Texas steers \$3.60 to \$3.75; native cows \$2.04 to \$2.25; heifers \$3.40 to \$3.75; bulls, \$2.40 to \$4.50; stags \$4.04 to \$4.75; calves \$4.50 to \$7.25, and stockers and feeders \$3.40 to \$4.40. Since Monday receipts have been heavier than expected, and on Wednesday there was a decline on nearly all grades, as follows: Choice to extra steers, \$5.20 to \$5.70; medium, \$4.60 to \$4.90; beef steers \$3.75 to \$4.50; stockers and feeders, \$3.40 to \$4.65; bulls, \$2.25 to \$4.25; cows and heifers, \$3.50 to \$4.25; calves, \$4.50 to \$7.50; western range, \$2.85 to \$4.40; fed western steers, \$4.10 to \$5.10. Texans \$3.25 to \$4.90.

Thursday estimated receipts were 11,000; market steady to stronger; beefs, \$4.40 to \$5.70; cows and heifers, \$3.75 to \$4.60; Texas steers, \$3.30 to \$3.90; westerns, \$3.40 to \$4.45; stockers and feeders, \$3.40 to \$4.50.

Sheep.—Receipts of sheep in this market the past week were 62,364, as compared with 65,752 the previous week and 75,785 for the corresponding week in 1897. Monday 18,191 sheep were on sale and the market ruled dull throughout the day, with values irregular and trade slow. The quality of the offerings was poor, and there was a drop of 10c on Western sheep. Good natives, however, ruled about steady. Lambs sold at a range of \$4.05 to \$6.00, bulk at \$4.80 to \$5.35; native sheep \$2.75 to \$4.40; western, \$3.75 to \$4.35. There was more life in the trade Tuesday, sheep selling at strong Monday's prices, while good lots of lambs were 10c higher, one bunch selling at \$6.00. Tuesday the market was irregular, with business rather slow, and most sales at Tuesday's prices. A few lots of choice native lambs sold at \$5.35, the top price of the week. In fact choice lambs generally showed an advance of 10c. The bulk of fair to good lambs were steady at \$5.25 to \$5.75 for westerns, \$5.25 to \$5.50 for natives, with feeders at \$4.75 to \$5.20; bulk of good to choice sheep, \$4.40 to \$4.35; feeders, \$3.75 to \$4.25, and quite a business being done in this line.

There was no change in the sheep market Thursday.

Hogs.—The receipts in this market the past week were 150,945, as compared with

126,050 the previous week and 161,171 for the corresponding week in 1897. Monday receipts were 24,752, as compared with 3

Miscellaneous.

SONNET.

BY ELLA WHEELER WILCOX.

Above the chaos of impending ills,
Through all the clamor of insistent strife,
Now, while the noise of warring Nations
fills
Each throbbing hour with menaces to life,
I hear the voice of Progress!

Strange indeed
The shadowed pathways that lead up to
light.
But, as a runner sometimes will recede
That he may so accumulate his might,
Then with a will that needs must be
obeyed
Rushes, resistless, to his goal with ease;
So the new world seems now to retro-
grade—
Slips back to war, that it may speed to
peace.
And in that backward step it gathers force
For the triumphant finish of its Course.
—The Cosmopolitan.

THE LOVER'S QUEST.

BY ERNEST GLANVILLE,

Author of "The Lost Heiress," "The Fossicker,"
"A Fair Colonist," "The Golden Rock," &c.

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(CONTINUED)

Had he been seen? He watched the boat as it grew smaller and smaller, until it finally disappeared. Then he stepped out of his cover down to the banks and looked back at the woods which had screened him. Now he understood, and drew a deep breath. Fluttering from a bough was a shred, a tiny streamer of colored cloth, that must have been torn from the clothing of the Portuguese Jose, or placed there by design.

Stoffel then must have either detected their landing place or had his suspicions aroused, for he had from his steady look in that direction seen the shred of cloth. Why then had he not landed?

Miles knitted his brows and stood for some time in thought. Standing so, he differed greatly from the man we had seen at the Welsh lake. Then he was well-groomed, trim, and without a sign of trouble on his smooth-shaven face, which bore only the stamp of gravity which is the sign of every young Englishman. Now his face was tanned, careworn and lined, his stout cords bore the mark of much wear, and his hands were as brown and as tough almost as a sailor's. There was a look, too, of anxiety and watchfulness in his eye, and his mouth was set in an expression habitually stern.

At last he made up his mind and crept down to the canoe. Out of this he took the three packages, thrust the paddle under the hummock of grass, then forced the bow of the canoe under water until it was filled and sank. Next he carried the packages up to the tree, when each taking one, they moved up the river about fifty paces, when their way was barred by a small creek, choked with brush, flowing into the rushes. Entering the creek, and leaving a broad trail, they passed up the little channel for a short distance, when, under the direction of Miles, they stepped cautiously out, and returned down river through the trees, passing about a hundred paces beyond the fig tree, Hans stopping in the rear to cover up the spoor. Edging to the river bank, a place was found where the water in flood had scooped out a hollow in the bank, now thickly overgrown with creepers, and here they crept in. Hans, as before, carefully removing broken twigs or bruised leaves. Through the leaves they caught glimpses of the river, but could see neither to the right nor left. Hans had asked no questions. He had learned to trust in his master, who had proved himself before so ready to plan and quick to act. Trained as he had been to the hunt, he realized that the manœuvre they had just carried out was done with the purpose of throwing their enemies off their track, and he was content to wait events. Not so Jose. He, too, had gathered that they were evading pursuit, but for him pursuit had no terrors, and he was possessed with eagerness to find out whether his friends were really near. He fidgeted, stretched out his legs, and finally struggled with a cough, which he pretended to strangle.

Miles said nothing, but he took out his handkerchief and bound it about the man's mouth, then tightly bound his feet and hands.

In their stuffy den the minutes

dragged heavily on. A few wandering wood ants found them out, and with customary ferocity, and utter disregard for consequences, gripped fast hold of wherever they found bare skin; and mosquitos, resting in the shade, took advantage of their opportunity, paying particular attention to the blood of the white man. They bore the discomfort and the pain in grim patience, but worse than the discomfort or the heat were the suspense and uncertainty. Miles at last began to think that his precautions had been needless, when Hans gave a slight hiss, and almost with a feeling of relief he heard the stroke of paddles. Louder grew the noise of splashing water, then there came the sound of an order, and this was followed by a rushing sound. Miles parted the leaves and saw that the big canoe had returned and been driven into the rushes. He counted the men before they landed. There were six only, or seven with Stoffel. The Arab and seven men had landed higher up. They were no doubt even then creeping up through the woods towards the huge fig tree, whose great top would have been taken by Stoffel as a guide.

A few minutes would now decide whether they would have to fight for their lives, and master and man listened like hunted animals for the sound of pursuit. These black man-hunters, however, did not give tongue. They worked on the track in silence, and not a cry or a word reached the ears of the hunted. For another weary hour, more anxious than the first, they crouched in their retreat, fancying they heard stealthy footsteps above, and whisperings, and the rustling of leaves, then, as the sun was sinking blood-red over the southern hills, staining the mighty river red, they heard again the dash of the paddles, and presently saw the boat slip by as in a sea of fire, the drops from the blades glittering like rubies, as they were scattered. Miles counted the men. There were four at the paddles and two in the stern—Stoffel and the Sheikh. Seven men were still ashore, hidden in the bush, watching.

Then, as the sun dipped, with a final rush, behind the distant hills, the red flush died away, and a wall of darkness swept down and over the river, greeted as it came by the wild caw of cranes winging their way home. Miles parted the living curtain before him, and stepped out to inhale the fresh air. Then he whispered to Hans what he had done with the canoe, and sent him off to spy out the land, trusting that the men left behind would not be vigilant so early in the night.

The wily old Hottentot did his work well, and presently reported that he had seen the glare of a fire in the wood. A move was immediately made, under shelter of the bank, to the spot where the canoe was hidden. Shallow though the water was, it required a great effort to lift the canoe, and the work was not done without a tremendous splash. A few armfuls of dry rushes were crammed into the boat, to cover the deposit of mud, the packages were hurriedly dumped in, and Miles was peering about for Jose, who had suddenly disappeared, when without warning a volley was poured in from the wood above, followed by a savage yell. Hans fired the two rifles in quick succession, and Miles, stepping in, sent the canoe, with a vigorous thrust or two, crashing through the reeds into the river. There was a rush from the bank, but Miles let the canoe drift silently down the stream, trusting to the darkness.

Jose, who had dodged among the reeds, called out to his friends that the white man was escaping down stream, and cried to them to fire again, so that the noise of the firing would be heard by Stoffel. Miles took the paddle, and steered for the middle of the river, where the noise of the paddling might pass unnoticed ashore, and then turned his canoe for a long race. When the sun rose they must be in the savage reaches of the great river.

He bent to his task, the water flashed from his paddle and went swirling with little flecks of white into the blackness behind. Hans in the bows sat peering into the almost impenetrable curtain ahead, his grip hard fast on either gunwale. As they slipped along they could for some time plainly hear the loud voices of the men ashore as they still called to each other. When these sounds gradually toned down and died away, there was no noise but the soft lapping of the water against the boat, and the regular plunge and swish of the paddle. No noise! And

yet there seemed an echo to each stroke of the blade, or if not an echo, some mysterious sound of rippling water.

Hans heard it and turned his head to look back, but all he could see was the last swirl of the paddle foams swiftly sliding into the black. He saw also the dark form of his master as it swayed to and fro in a regular movement to the forward sweep, to the strong stroke, and swift backward kick that made the water flash and boil, and he looked long for comfort and sense of security. Presently, however, when Miles ceased paddling for a moment, he, too, caught the faint sound that stirred the air.

"Does the baas hear?" whispered Hans, bending forward.

"A fish, perhaps."

"Neh, sieur. I have long heard it following. I think that something comes after us in the dark."

They slanted their ears to the wind, looking back while the canoe drifted slowly, but there came no sound, and Miles sighing heavily with weariness, plunged his paddle in again, while Hans sank down into the bows, muttering under his breath.

Presently a bend in the river brought them near to the south bank, and as they passed a heavy sigh broke the silence, followed by a noise so deep and rolling, that, coming suddenly out of the stillness, it almost startled Miles into dropping his paddle.

Hans laughed silently.

"It is the leum that speaks, baas," he said; then shouted to the lion to swim out.

A low growl came in response, so near, seemingly, that Miles drove the canoe away from the bank with a few strokes.

"My Gott!" said the Hottentot.

"What is it?" cried Miles, grasping his rifle.

"That noise, sieur! Jes now I heard it. That what follows is near. When I called out to the lion the noise came to my ear plainer than before."

"What sort of a noise was it?"

"My baas," said Hans, in a fierce whisper, "turn the boat a little—so."

There was a gleam in the darkness, as he moved his rifle. Then a red flash leapt out, followed by the ringing crack.

"Verdom!" he shouted. "I see the schelms!"

"What the devil—" began Miles, angrily, as he steadied the canoe, when he involuntarily dodged his head as a bullet whizzed by, and looking over his shoulder he saw the darkness torn by flash after flash, which lit up a long boat under sail, while the water around him was cut by the flying bullets.

This was the secret of that noise. They had been all the time pursued.

CHAPTER XI.

Venning dropped his paddle, caught up his Express, and as the canoe swung round he fired right and left at a darker patch away out in the river. Then Hans fired, and they both crouched down, awaiting the answering volley, as they opened the smoking breaches and jammed home fresh cartridges. There came, however, no angry spurt of red flame, and their eyes once turned from the indistinct blur that had marked the position of the enemy's boat, could not now detect anything.

Allah varel!" muttered Hans. "They have already gone. I can hear niets."

"Did they call out when you fired?"

"Neh, baas! They was still—boom! boom! bang! bang! den skit ek, boom! and they was gone!"

The canoe grounded then, they were so near in, and swung round, while in the profound silence the ripple of the water along her side made quite a loud noise. Long they sat, peering into the darkness, listening intently. Then Miles spoke his thoughts aloud.

"I wonder how they were able to follow us in the dark?"

"Ja, sieur, that is to me also wonderlike. I think that was a spifit boat, baas, else why did not the men cry out?"

"I see now, the current must set to this side of the river, and they waited for us."

"Ja, baas."

"Where are they now?"

"Perhaps this, baas. They will know that the boat was near the bank, and maybe they will send men ashore to creep along so they may catch us if we stop."

"Very likely, Hans," and Miles shov-

ed off, and with his rifle between his knees, cautiously moved away, taking care to make no splash, and keeping straight for the north bank. They saw nothing nor heard the slightest sound, on the long way across, and under the north bank the stillness was even greater, for there was no breath of air, the higher ground fending off the slight breeze.

Miles ran the canoe ashore for a slight rest, and sat forward, exhausted.

"Eh, baas, it is heart-sore to have people after you, when you cannot see them. It fears me as a snake would, crawling in the dark."

"They will be looking out for us at daylight."

"The baas can shoot well. If we keep by the shore and they are out on the water, we can fight them. If they hit our boat and the water comes in, we are near the land. If we hit their boat, and it sinks in the deep water, they are lost."

"We must have sleep, Hans, and I cannot paddle all day."

"Ek is sorry, my master, but if I pull the boat is sunk. What I think, sieur, is this: We go on, but before daylight we stop, pull the boat up, and we get in the bush. Bymby the other people see the boat and come across. We see 'em come, and go through the bush to meet 'em, where they want to land, maybe up river, maybe down. What baas think?"

"Yes," said Miles. "That is as good as anything. And it may help us if we light a fire in the woods to make them believe we are not watching."

"Goot, so, my master; and this time if they come, we make them yell. Dat is so."

Miles bent to his task again, until a faint light brought the dark outline of the trees into view, when they once more landed, drew the canoe to the shore, and carried their precious packages into the sheltering protection of the woods, where, beyond a thick barrier of leaves, they prepared a meal. This done, they looked to their rifles, and after packing a quantity of wood on the fire, returned to the edge of the forest to watch. It was a desperate stroke they were playing, and all depended on whether they obtained the first advantage. A thin strip of shore stretched right and left below them, but for some time a heavy mist lay on the water, veiling completely everything beyond a distance of a few yards. First they saw the trees on the further side, but it was long before the white cloud lying low upon the water finally vanished, and then there was no living thing upon the dark flood. But they waited watching, for, if their enemies were near, they would doubtless be on the lookout, and would soon see the cloud of smoke rising from out the trees.

Yes! What was that far up the river, stealing out from the southern bank and dashing in haste across the river? A boat crowded with men, the sail clewed to the single pole forward. It was making for the shelter of the rear bank, and would no doubt come swiftly gliding down, in an attempt to catch the fugitives off their guard.

The two fugitives shifted their ground, moving up stream, until they stood, well concealed, on a small promontory, where they could wait events. If some of the crew were landed out of range they would still have time to take to their boat, but the probability was that if men were landed at all it would be done under the cover of this very spur on which they were hidden.

This was so. When the boat was within easy range she was slewed round, to bring her nose in, while a half-a-dozen warriors, with their guns and shields, stood up ready to spring ashore. In the boat, with his rifle ready, was the big Dutchman, Stoffel, and beside him another bearded man.

"Now!" said Miles, and they both fired. One man threw up his arms and fell overboard. The oarsmen hesitated, then backed out.

"Fire at the boat!" and a splinter flew out to the next report. A few shots were fired aimlessly in return, and in the confusion the long boat spun round and round. Stoffel stood up, roaring his orders, then, kicking a man out of his way, seized a paddle and steadied the boat for the shore. Again the two fired, aiming at the low hull, and they could see from the frantic efforts made that she was badly hit. In fact, men leapt out into the water, and swam for the shore.

"To the canoe!" said Miles.

(To be Continued.)

IN LONELINESS.

How still the old gray house! How very still!
No voice, no step, no sound of work or play!
Each door is locked above its deep, warm sill,
Each window curtained from the summer day.

The creeping grasses over-run the walks,
Crowd close about the door steps, rank and tall,
The wild birds nest among the weedy stalks,
Black hornets glue their mud cells to the wall.

The idle well sweep leans above the well,
Viewing its idle image far below,
Where once the plashing bucket rose and fell,
There long, bright ferns and greenest mosses grow.

The shed door stands ajar, and growing things
Have pushed their curious blades and leaves between,
But stand in check, with awesome quiverings,
At something in the silence felt or seen.

The long, low barn is silent as the dead,
Only the sunbeams creep along the walls
Only the shy mouse scurries, at your tread,
Across the dusty floors and vacant stalls.

The apple-trees from their scant depths of green,
Extend long, blackened, ghostly arms to greet;
The arbut vines have barred, with leafy screen,
The door that opened to the old retreat.

Abandoned? No. They who these paths have trod,
Whose handiwork in fading lines we trace,
Are lying now beneath this very sod
Blending their ashes with the old, loved place.

—Laura Garland Carr.

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION OF SPAIN'S PRIME MINISTER.

Sagasta, the present Spanish Prime Minister, is a stately built, frog-faced man, with a strong jaw, a wide, insincere smile, and black, filmy eyes, as of an Arab or a Gypsy, says a correspondent of the London Sun. He has the glib word, the expansive manner and the exuberant gesture of the South. There is one charge which his most embittered enemies dare not bring against him—that of cowardice. His convictions may be centered upon himself, but most emphatically he has the courage of them. Over and above his vast astuteness of thought, he is a man of action. If for many years he has proven himself as supple as a serpent, his earlier history showed him to be as brave as a lion. He fought against O'Donnell in the streets of Madrid in 1856 at the head of a regiment of militia.

Before that, as a lad of 18, when a student at the College of Engineers at Logrono, his native place, he hesitated not to withstand the behests of the dreaded Nervaez. Whenever the time came for fighting he was ready to take his share, yet, without impeaching that undeniable physical pluck of which he has given many proofs, it is not surprising to find that he made it his first duty as a soldier to prevent himself from being unnecessarily killed. Hence in the summer of 1866, while many of his colleagues stuck to their barricades in the streets of Madrid, and were massacred, Sagasta underwent the much more convenient fate of being condemned to the uncomfortable death of the garrotte—in his absence.

Thenceforward, for two years, London, Paris and Ostend were the centres of his activity, and if walls could speak a certain restaurant of Bishopgate street could tell some strange stories. He engineered the revolution of 1868 and drove Isabella II from the throne, and this time fortune favored him. When Topete and the fleet had been won over and most of the army was squared the signal was given. Sagasta and Zorilla (as pure a patriot as ever lived, but too honest and consistent to be a successful modern Spanish politician), with Prim as a servant in livery, sailed under assumed names in the steamer Delta, from London to Gibraltar, early in the September of thirty years ago.

I cannot be surprised at our American cousins loathing the very name of Sagasta with the keenest of hatred—second only to that which they have for General Weyler. It was because of his direct action in 1873 that the infamous General Burrill shot eight Americans in one day, and four days afterward shot Capt. Fry, General Ryan and fifty-eight more. Indeed, of all prime ministers that Spain has ever had, Sagasta has been the most merciless and unreliable. He is a talleyrand-Bismarck, with a strong flavor of Torquemada.

Even now the old man's astounding good luck may be depended upon to bring him to the surface again, although he has just exceeded man's allotted span. But there is a more patient and dogged enemy than the paltry politicians who are in opposition to Sagasta. This is no less a person than General Weyler himself. The two men have clashed for years, and when Sagasta dismissed his enemy and put Blanco in his place as captain general of Cuba he made a most unwise move for his own interest and for the peace of his closing years. Weyler has too much of the slow-moving Dutch blood of his father to act without discretion. So he watches and waits.

WHAT A RUSSIAN THINKS OF IT.

Colonel Nicolas Yermoloff, the Russian officer who acted as military observer for his government during the operations in Cuba and Porto Rico, has returned to Washington for a few days. He regards the campaign about Santiago as one of the most successful ever waged when the difficulties under which it was conducted are taken into consideration. Colonel Yermoloff is a comparatively young officer, but he has seen considerable service in the field. He had just received his commission when the Russo-Turkish war broke out and he went into the service. He was present at Plevna and other battles, and then entered the diplomatic branch of the army. He is now military attaché at the Russian embassy in London, from which place he was detailed to observe the operations of the United States' armies during the war with Spain.

"The spirit and courage displayed by the American troops was superb," said Colonel Yermoloff to an interviewer. "I was not able to see as much of the volunteer troops as of the regulars, but what I saw of both enables me to say that I do not believe there are any better soldiers in the world. They settled down to the work in the trenches with the same courage that they scaled the heights of San Juan. The fighting is not always the hardest part of a soldier's life. When they are carried away with the excitement of battle they perform prodigious feats of heroism, but the steady grind of a siege, like this one is more trying on the men and requires even a higher courage than the making of a charge. In both cases the men did their work well and uncomplainingly. They accepted the conditions cheerfully and lay in the trenches day after day, exposed to all the ill's incidental to a terrible climate—the sun beating down on them, noxious vapors arising from the soil and exposed to all kinds of fevers and other ills.

"It is impossible to convey an adequate view of the difficulties due to the climatic conditions. Nothing like it has ever come under my observation. The enervating effects of the terrible heat, the difficulty of maintaining camps for so many men in such a limited territory, and the consequent sickness, made the difficulty of handling the supplies many times what it would have been under favorable circumstances."

A FEW JOKES FOR DYSPEPTICS.

A lawyer in a Boston court the other day after a close cross examination of a witness, an illiterate Irish woman, in reference to the position of the doors and windows, etc., in her house, asked the following question:

"And now, my good woman, tell the court how the stairs run in your house," to which the good woman replied:

"How do the stairs run? Shure, whin I'm oop stairs they run down, and whin I'm down they run oop."

Fitted for the Part.—"Oh, no! I haven't got a snap for next season at all!" chuckled the living skeleton, and his bones rattled with joy.

"Going to sit for X-ray photographs of fat people?" queried the left head of the two-headed girl.

"Not on your double life!" replied the living skeleton indignantly; "I'm going to be the victim of Spanish misrule in a Cuban play."—Puck.

A little London girl visiting relatives in the country was sent to a neighbor's for milk. The neighbor's cow had ceased to give milk for the time, and there was none to be had. "There is no milk to-day," said the little girl on her return. "No milk?" said the aunt. "What is the matter?" "She didn't

tell me what was the matter," was the reply; "but I s'pose the cow ain't laying just now."

"Ah," sighed the elderly maiden from Boston, "you do not know what it is to have loved and lost."

"No," said the young woman from the West, "I can show an unbroken string of victories in my breach-of-promise suits."—Chicago News.

"There was a bogus Hobson at a South Georgia watering place last week," said a New Orleans drummer who came in yesterday from a trip, "and the hotel proprietor is wild over the sell. The lieutenant's double was Arthur Eaton, of Cincinnati, who is well known here. He looks something like Hobson's picture, and a friend registered him as the hero, just for a joke. Well, you should have seen the excitement! The whole district flocked to the hotel, all the pretty girls turned out, and the landlord nearly burst a blood-vessel getting up a swell dinner. In a little while the thing had gone so far that Eaton was afraid to own up, and he sneaked off on the first train.

"Before he got away the girls cut all the buttons off his clothes as souvenirs, and he got to Jacksonville hanging together by safety pins. At the depot some cheerful idiot asked the 'fake' Hobson to kiss his best girl, and several other idiots followed suit. Now they want his gore, and lots of it. I forgot to say that Eaton promised to send every native in town a chunk of the Merrimac. It would take about three battleships to go round. If he ever goes back there they will hang him, sure."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Mr. Pneer had been run into by a Chicago street car. He was taken to the nearest drug store and a surgeon was hastily summoned.

"The thigh bone is dislocated," announced the surgeon, after a brief examination.

"Here, you!" he continued, turning to a masculine bystander, and grasping the sufferer firmly around the body. "Pull his leg!"

"What! Already?" groaned Mr. Pneer, opening his eyes and placing his hand on his pocketbook.

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* 8:50 pm / Mixed Gd. Rapids Int. stations * 7:05 am

Farmers' Clubs.

CONDUCTED BY A. C. BIRD.

All correspondence for this department should be addressed to A. C. Bird, Highland, Mich.

OFFICERS OF THE STATE ASSOCIATION OF FARMERS' CLUBS.

President—E. J. Cook, Owosso.
Vice-President—Mrs. E. L. Lockwood, Petersburg.
Secretary—C. M. Pierce, Elva.
Directors—W. H. Howlett, Dansville; C. J. Phelps, Damon; F. M. Whelan, Vernon; A. L. Landon, Springport; H. Gaunt, Highland; A. P. Green, Eaton Rapids.

All communications relating to the organization of new clubs should be addressed to C. M. Pierce, Elva, Mich.

Association Topic for October—The Most Practical Solution of the Railroad Taxation Problem.

TO CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES.

You are urgently requested to send at once to C. M. Pierce, Elva, Tuscola Co., Mich., Secretary of the State Association, a postal card communication stating the names and postoffice addresses of your club president, corresponding secretary and recording secretary. Also, if any change is hereafter made in the officers, please inform Secretary Pierce at once. The work of the secretary's office will be greatly facilitated if this matter receives your prompt attention. A few moments thus given by each corresponding secretary will save the Association secretary many hours' hard work and much sore vexation of spirit.

THE STRENGTH OF THE STATE ASSOCIATION.

The strength of the farmers' club movement lies in the loyal devotion of its thirty thousand supporters. This loyal devotion to the principles of justice and equity between man and man which is the very soul of the associational work of the farmers' clubs, has done more for the farmers of Michigan than any other influence of modern times. It appeals to the best there is in man. It sets him to thinking along new and broader lines. It has already in thousands of instances developed powers of mind so long inactive that their resurrection is a source of the utmost surprise, even to the possessors themselves. So great and so general has been this influence that to-day in hundreds of agricultural communities in this State the social and intellectual atmosphere has absolutely changed, and thoughtful men everywhere, regardless of their occupation, are learning to respect the new force that promises so much toward the betterment of existing conditions. The State Association has gained a standing among men which will make its work in the future far easier and much more effective, and which will multiply many fold its influence in the greater affairs of life, social, intellectual and financial.

The increased expense was absolutely necessary. Where was it to come from? From the class that is already paying far more than its share of taxes? He thought it should not come from them. Corporations are useful, and when confined to their proper functions he is a friend to them. They are necessary. But he does not want to pay their taxes, and when a man who, starting in with nothing, has grown rich through corporations, he has no use for nor confidence in him when that same man goes before a legislative committee and says his company is on the verge of bankruptcy, and unable to pay taxes on its valuation, and virtually requests that its share be placed on the farmers and other classes less able to pay.

In conclusion, to show the manifest unfairness of the present system, not only in this but in other states, he quoted from the Forum of May, 1897, from the official report of the comptroller of the currency of the State of New York, to the effect that only one and seventy-seven hundredths per cent of the personal property in that state is placed on the assessment rolls. This was arrived at by taking the appraisal of the personal estate after the death of the owners and comparing them with the assessment rolls of the preceding year. He also said that the same article stated that in 1857, Samuel E. Church, the then comptroller of the currency, felt called upon in his annual report to direct the attention of the legislature to the way in which personal property was escaping taxation. Yet at the same time, 1857, there was on the roll more than \$61,000,000 in ex-

cess of the amount in 1896. Yet everybody knows that the personal property of the State of New York has increased enormously in the last forty years.

Governor Pingree next addressed the meeting on his favorite subject of "Equal Taxation." He however took occasion to tell his audience of the magnificent work of Michigan in the war, stating that from her quota of seven thousand men only fourteen could not read and write. He paid his compliments to Senators McMillan and Burrows, and to State Senators Westcott, Preston and Thompson. He said that no man could honestly acquire millions of dollars in a single lifetime. That all such instances were the result of favoritism or something worse. No country can be on a sound basis when millions can be piled up by a single man. "I have no respect for a business man who does not make money, but society is to blame for the craze to become millionaires. A young man can not now start in business in the large cities with a reasonable capital. Political nominating conventions should be done away with, and the votes which elect should be cast right in the caucuses. Going to conventions is simply going to buy and sell and to jockey around, and it is wrong. Vote direct. Senator Barnard was defeated in the caucuses at Grand Rapids recently because he dared to refuse a great bribe and voted for the Atkinson bill." In closing he answered some questions about the Michigan troops. Three cheers were given for the Governor and the meeting adjourned.

We are greatly indebted to the Owosso Times for our report of this meeting. Shiawassee Co. REPORTER.

THE COUNTY ASSOCIATION A SUCCESS.

We are frank to confess that we have heretofore allied ourselves closely with the "Doubting Thomases" whenever the practicability of the County Association of Farmers' Clubs has been urged. To all, who with us have shared these doubts, we would say, go ye to Shiawassee county and be convinced. We have no hesitancy in saying that if the meeting of August 27 is a fair example of the results of county associational work, not only Shiawassee county, but every county in the State of Michigan should at once proceed to the organization of a similar association.

The Shiawassee County Association of Farmers' Clubs is as yet in its experimental stage, but enough has been accomplished to demonstrate its practicability. It was our privilege and pleasure to meet with the clubs composing it on the occasion of their first annual public meeting. The character of the work accomplished and the harmony of the feeling everywhere prevalent gave us every assurance that the County Association has come to stay.

The strength of this association seems to us to be due to three conditions, namely: The harmonious loyalty of the local clubs of the county to the farmers' club movement in general; the self-sacrificing energy of its leaders; the determination to do but one thing at a time, but to do that successfully and conclusively.

These conditions are not peculiar to Shiawassee county, although we doubt whether a more practical combination of the three could be brought about in any other county in the State. Yet in Jackson, Oakland, Livingston, St. Clair, Gratiot, and many other counties there is every possible encouragement for the establishment of similar organizations. In order that our readers may know more of the work of this county organization we give considerable space in this issue to a report of their recent successful meeting at Caledonia Park, near Owosso.

THE ASSOCIATION OFFICERS.

The next six months will be the active period in farmers' club work. The officers of the State Association will meet during the coming week to make plans for this period. These plans will be carefully considered before they are adopted by the Board of Directors and will represent the deliberate conclusions of themselves and their counselors. The high standing of every individual member of this Board will inspire confidence in their conclusions. We bespeak the most loyal support on the part of the farmers' club workers of Michigan in behalf of the plans adopted.

One thing, however, should be remembered: That the work of the officers of the State Association of Farm-

ers' Clubs is purely voluntary. No official is paid for his services except by the gratitude of the thousands whom he serves. On this account the work should be made as light as possible, and it should be the first aim of every farmers' club member to do everything in his or her power to lighten the burden resting upon these officials. Especially should every effort be made to relieve the secretary from the manifold duties of his position. The correspondence alone of this official assumes enormous proportions during the fall and winter months.

From our practical experience in performing the duties of that office we can unhesitatingly say that the most vexatious thing connected with the work is the neglect of corresponding secretaries to promptly reply to the communications addressed to them. From frequent conversations with the other ex-secretaries we have learned that their experience in this respect is not unlike our own. The difficulty can be so easily corrected that there is no excuse for its longer continuance. The number of local clubs is now so great that it is impossible for the Association secretary to address communications to each corresponding secretary personally. The only practical way of promptly reaching them all with his requests is through these columns.

Then let every corresponding secretary keep a vigilant eye out for communications of this nature and give them prompt attention; for the only really valuable answer to such communications is the one that comes promptly.

In loyalty to the Association and to its officers we urge this matter upon the attention of the farmers' club corresponding secretaries of Michigan.

SHIAWASSEE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF FARMERS' CLUBS.

FIRST ANNUAL MEETING.

The Shiawassee County Association of Farmers' Clubs held its first annual meeting at Caledonia Park, August 27. The meeting was not only a success so far as the size of the crowd and the rendition of the program was concerned, but it was one of the most pleasant meetings from a social point of view that has ever been held in the park. The members of the several clubs assembled at various intervals during the forenoon, and after spending some time in visiting they proceeded to take a good hour in which to dispose of the large baskets of lunch which are the inevitable and much enjoyed accompaniments of such gatherings.

At two o'clock the program itself was begun. In opening this part of the day's proceedings President Frank Whelan referred to the organization of the association last winter and reviewed its objects briefly, the principal ones being the cultivation of the acquaintance of others, both for its own good and for the use it will be in assisting all to work together for their common advantage.

The first paper was one read by Mrs. Frank Clark, of Vernon, who touched upon the bright side of farm life with such a skillful hand that the picture seemed almost one complete panorama of pleasing sights and happy events, and there is no reason why it should not be so. Nutting parties and picking apples in the fall; the long evenings for reading, sleigh-riding and visiting in the winter; the pleasures of planning the season's crops in the spring; the caring for the chickens when they look like fluffy balls of down, and the finding of the first spring beauties; then the berries served with cream, and the picnic parties in the woods, complete the circle of the year.

Wm. H. White, of the North East Venice Farmers' Club, was called upon to say something concerning "Free Mail Delivery," and he plunged into his subject with a vim. The subject is, as he says, one of intense practical interest to the farmer, and while it would doubtless cost something, so do battleships, railway and steamboat lines, and electric cars. We are behind European countries in this respect. The cost, however, would not be noticed if at the same time the great waste of money in the Star Route contract service and the railway carrying rates were checked. In the first place the government pays, according to Mr. White, eight times as much as the actual carriers receive, and in the latter case pays seven times as much as business corporations have to pay for matter which costs no less to carry and

which has no guaranty of U. S. troops to force trains through.

Miss Belle Morrison, of the Meridian Farmers' Club, read a paper on "Nineteenth Century Progress," treating the subject in a broad spirited manner. Knowledge is power, and he who has it has power, as Bacon says. The schoolboy of to-day knows more of the laws of nature than the sages of the past.

Mrs. Chas. Burton read an interesting sketch of the Burton Farmers' Club history, the oldest club in the country. The club was organized February 4, 1886, with a membership comprising ten families and has steadily grown in usefulness.

A. C. Bird, of Highland, member of the State Board of Agriculture and one of the editors of The Michigan Farmer, was introduced and gave an earnest address on the theme of equal taxation. He spoke briefly of the work of the various departments of state, dwelling at length on that of the insurance bureau, to the chief of which, Milo D. Campbell, he paid a glowing tribute, saying that he was the first commissioner who has had nerve enough to say that the insurance companies who were defrauding the people must get out. While emphasizing the value of such work which the common people can not afford to have left undone, or poorly done, Mr. Bird said that all this meant increased taxation, and that brought him to the main theme of his address:

REPORTS FROM LOCAL CLUBS.

DEERFIELD FARMERS' CLUB.

Club met at the home of John E. Wood, August 18. The topic, "Suitable Buildings on the Farm," was led by F. N. Boyden, who thought the farm should first have a fair house, then a good barn before this is changed for a costly and capacious residence. John Wykes thought we should take care to provide proper ventilation for all our buildings, not forgetting that live stock need ventilation as well as human beings. Geo. D. Brown was in favor of the basement barn. Thought we should ventilate from the cellar of the house or barn. John Boettner said that in Germany they have ventilating shafts built in the barns. They keep the cattle up all the year round. S. Craft was in favor of large windows and plenty of light.

"Farmers' Wives in Society" was led by Mrs. Wm. Salisbury, in a well prepared paper. Mrs. John Wykes, who led the discussion, thought farmers' wives should have the first place, as they are the mothers of most of our noble men and women.

"The Best Method of Handling and Harvesting a Crop of Corn" was opened by John C. Wood. This topic produced a lively discussion. Some favored a horse to set shocks around, while others preferred the saddles made by entwining the hills where the shock is to be placed. The claims for the latter system are that the corn stands up better and that it will cure out more quickly.

In response to a communication from the Webster of Oakland Farmers' Club a committee was appointed to draft the following resolution which was afterwards adopted: That we sustain the Webster Farmers' Club in its efforts to obtain a fair representation and an equal taxation of the railroads.

Isabella Co. N. V. COOMER, Cor. Sec.

WEST AVON FARMERS' CLUB.

The West Avon Farmers' Club met with Thos. Loomey, Aug. 17th. The Association question for July and August was first discussed. F. Hilton opened the discussion by saying that equal taxation is necessary. Considering both sides of the question he thought all railroads should be taxed on their valuation. He thought a specific tax just and equitable, however. Does not believe in class legislation. Wm. Cotcher thought farmers' pay more than their share of taxes and that they should be exempt from all State taxes, while the railroads are not taxed enough.

Supervisor Reeves, of Pontiac, spoke of there being too much taxation, and thought we should pledge the legislators to use more economy, and at the same time we should be practicing it at home in township matters. Taxes can be reduced in the towns. For instance, the Board of Review could do the work as well to meet once in five years as under the present system. The salaries of some officers might also be reduced.

Schuyler Chamberlain said that

mortgagees should be taxed and not mortgagors. C. L. Flummerfelt spoke of taxing the railroads according to their worth and all property accordingly. Thinks it would pay the eastern money lenders better to let their money in the east at from three to four per cent rather than pay the Michigan tax.

Mr. Welch, of Chicago, and Dr. Avery, of Pontiac, were both present and took an active part in the discussion of the sugar beet question. They are anxious to have a factory built at Pontiac. Mr. Welch spoke practically on sugar beet culture, and gave some good points on the raising of beets. Said it would be of mutual benefit to the farmers, the trust and the city of Pontiac. Dr. Avery argued that the factory would be beneficial to the people. As the factory would cost two millions or more, he hoped to see it go up in Pontiac. Club meets with S. Chamberlain in four weeks.

Oakland Co.

REPORTER.

WIXOM FARMERS' CLUB.

The Wixom Farmers' Club held its August meeting at the pleasant home of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Childs. There was a good attendance and a good degree of interest manifested. The discussion of the Association topic developed quite a little talk, and resulted in the crystallization and unanimous endorsement of a resolution as follows: Resolved, That it is the farmers' duty to attend all caucuses and political conventions, and to see to it that only honest and capable men are placed in nomination, and then use all honest and legitimate means to secure their election; and if defeated in such efforts by party intrigues, refuse to endorse the action of such intriguers.

It was conceded that indifference on the part of the farmer has invited and encouraged designing, ambitious and unscrupulous political demagogues to so manipulate political affairs as to bring about the present shameful, deplorable and unsatisfactory condition of public matters. But though the farmer has been asleep he has not been dead, and is now fully awake and taking note of what is happening, and will speedily bring offenders to justice. September meeting with Mr. and Mrs. J. Erwin.

Oakland Co.

REPORTER.

THE OLIVE BRANCH FARMERS' CLUB.

What gave promise at the outset of being an especially enjoyable meeting of the Olive Branch Farmers' Club at its last convening, was all at once transformed from a scene of gladness to one of deep gloom by the sudden death of the host, Saturday afternoon, August 27, 1898, the club met with a large number present at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Bigelow, of Springfield township, Oakland county. The literary program and the crop report had been presented. Action had been taken favoring a county organization of farmers' clubs and provision had been made for a scrap-bag at the next meeting. A question-box had been opened. Shortly after Mr. Bigelow had spoken upon a question and while it was still being discussed by other members, he was stricken with death from heart disease and forthwith expired. A committee to draw up suitable resolutions of sympathy and sorrow was named. The next meeting is to be held with Mr. Marion Jones, four miles north of Clarkston.

Oakland Co.

REPORTER.

MAPLE RIVER CLUB.

The August meeting was entertained at the pleasant home of Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Cook on the 25th inst. As there was no regular Association question for August, the program committee at the previous meeting had announced a new departure—a boiled down program, consisting of some fifteen numbers. Nearly all responded with interesting papers, talks and selections.

The topic of free mail delivery was brought up and discussed. For some time past the farmers in this vicinity, along the regular mail route between Owosso and Pittsburg, have been hiring the carrier to deliver their mail at their doors, and it has met with so much success and appreciation that an effort is being made to secure a free mail delivery route along this mail line. As there have been special appropriations made by Congress for this purpose, and as the carrier is obliged to pass over the route, some ten miles in length, daily, there seems to be a reasonable chance that the effort will meet with success. I understand that the postmaster at Owosso is not in favor of the plan, as he is fearful that if it should prove successful, it will in-

jure his chances of securing another mail carrier for the city.

Messrs. C. H. H. Payne and I. Snyder were appointed as a special committee to look into the matter and report at the next meeting some plan for work.

The subject of "No Hunting" signs was brought up and discussed. The matter was carried over until another meeting when steps will be taken to see that all are supplied with suitable placards to post on their farms to keep off unwanted trespassers and hunters in general. They are directed particularly against the city gentry who seem to consider farms their legal hunting ground and anything that they can shoot their lawful prey. Placards were posted a year ago by nearly all members of the club with good results.

The next meeting of the club will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Fuller, Sept. 29.

Shiawassee Co.

C. P. REYNOLDS.

SOUTHWEST VERNON FARMERS' CLUB.

The September meeting of the Southwest Vernon Farmers' Club met with Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Easler on September 1. On account of the warm weather a great many members were absent. The question was given, "Does it pay for a farmer to raise his own garden seeds?" It was decided it would be more profitable if each farmer would do so.

A recitation was given by Vida Perry followed by a song, "Break the News to Mother," by Fred Easler and M. Mannis. The next question was "Does wealth tend to elevate the human character?" by Rev. Benson. He showed in his talk how money sometimes elevates one in society but not in character. On account of the absence of many of our members our program was rather limited.

Supper was served, after which the club adjourned to meet with Mr. and Mrs. N. West on October 6.

Shiawassee Co.

BLANCHE COLE, Cor. Sec.

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For The Michigan Farmer.

FARM POULTRY.

The farm poultry or, what is better, the poultry of the farmer who is mostly engaged in other branches, is very often a sadly neglected branch. And yet no one is better fitted to make a success of poultry culture than the average farmer. The great trouble is that farmers do not improve the opportunity they have to make this a paying business. It is true that they may not have enough time at command to run incubators and brooders, and yet we know of some who do employ artificial methods in winter, making broiler raising a pursuit at a time of the year when they have the best opportunity. But the farmer must put up better buildings—not fancier, but warmer and larger; he must curtail the size of his flock; he must weed out the old stock; he must feed more of a variety; he must keep the premises cleaner and not allow the droppings to accumulate in the henhouse. All droppings should be removed every morning, and it is but a few minutes' work to do so. Let the farmer become wide awake to his opportunities, and get away from mongrelism in his stock and foginess in his ideas, and he will make poultry and eggs the best paying crop on his farm.

With the increase of practical work in the poultry press, with the recognition of utility by the fanciers and the poultry exhibitions, and by the introduction of poultry bulletins by the State experimental stations and the United States Department of Agriculture, the farmer is given a fund of valuable information which will prompt him to better work with the American hen, and to make that an important industry on the farm. It is to be said of the poultry business that, while panics and financial depressions have occurred many times in the years that are passed, the markets, though panicky, took all the poultry supplies and eggs that were offered, and at better prices than those offered in other lines. The great drawback to this industry is due to the fact that the farmers of America do not furnish enough, for eggs are imported each year, and each year they find new customers. It has frequently occurred that, when an article has been produced in excess of the demand for one or two years, the low prices serve as an inducement to investment in some direction in which eggs form a prominent part, and the demand soon

keeps pace with the supply. Did it ever occur to you that there were too few egg producers in the country and that the farmers are not taking advantage of this condition? With the improvements for the shipping and keeping, it seems as if this demand could be more nearly supplied at home than it is at present. There is always a fair profit in eggs, even when prices are low. The reason for this is due to the fact that much of the feed consumed by the egg producer would have otherwise gone to waste, which is now converted into cash even though it be a small amount. This is a day of little things. We must be satisfied with small margins. The day of bonanza profits has gone out of the reach of the farmer of to-day, and should he turn waste into profit he is doing well. Think of this.

We do not exactly feel like advising every farmer to keep nothing but pure-bred fowls. We feel this way for the reason that it is sometimes necessary to get a few hens for sitting purposes that will attend to the incubation just as well as the pure-bred fowls, and some of them will do a better job of it than some breeds of pure-bred fowls. We would advise every farmer, however, to employ nothing but pure-bred males in his flock, and they should be of the breed that will best answer his purpose. If every farmer would do this the sale of pure-bred poultry would be increased, and it would only be a few years until there would be no such thing as mongrels. Many farmers would thus succeed where they now fail. It is a laudable business to breed pure-bred fowls, and those who feel inclined that way certainly are engaged in the right business, but all do not incline that way. It will be well to remember that the farmer is engaged in the poultry business, and not for the prettiest feathers, or anything of that kind. He does not grow ten acres of potatoes from seed that will produce the prettiest blossoms, not by any means; it is potatoes he is after. There is a legitimate field for the honest fancier who sells exhibition and breeding birds, and please let us say in this connection that a very small number succeed in their field as compared with the many who make money producing eggs and poultry for market. Skillful breeders who raise but a very few excellent birds that bring fancy prices, do not make the money the man does who breeds birds extensively and who breeds the stock in demand by practical producers.

The male is by all means the most important part of the flock, and we have but little patience with the man who will persistently buy the meanest, cheapest specimen of pure-bred stock to head his flock. All such birds should have been decapitated and consumed for food. If the industry is to be successful the best should be provided; those possessing the greatest excellence, having the qualities the breeder most desires. A male at from \$2 to \$5 that is desirable is much more to be prized than one at 50 cents that will stamp nothing but meanness on the flock. The size and marketable qualities of the whole flock depend largely upon the male used. Breeders of cattle, hogs and sheep have found this out, and they get the best males. The best corn grower now selects his seed with an eye to improvement, and why should not the poultryman? By using a male of the same breed (not the same male) year after year, we secure grades that are hardy, and each year the grade is one notch nearer to having the qualities of the pure-bred. If males of different breeds are employed each season the stock soon becomes inferior. The more they are mixed the worse they become. By crossing two pure breeds that are very dissimilar, we secure an increase of hardiness in the first cross as well as the special qualities of each breed, in a high degree. The feeding power is also greater and more of the chicks will live. Of these first crosses the males, especially, should not be bred from, but marketed. This is a well known principle in live stock on the farm and is also applicable to poultry. Hardy stock that has been on the farm for five or six years is too good to throw away. The above from the Poultry Farmer, is good sense from the practical business standpoint and is just what I have been trying to beat into farmers for years. You do not need to throw all your fowls away in order to start in for better fowls. You, no doubt, can pick out ten quite nice hens or pullets from your flock, put a pure-bred B. P. Rock male with these; raise all your chicks from this pen only; next year pick out ten of

the best of these and in a few years you will have a flock fit for the king, and at a cost of, say, \$2 a year for a male, and a little extra work on your part, and if you knew how this would pay, you would surely do it.

For pity sake, get out of the old rut for one year and see how it seems; try it once and you will never get back. You and the hired man get into that hen-house with your dung forks, back up your team and wagon and take out about four big loads; it is good for the land; if you get covered with lice in the meantime never mind it, do not swear; you can stand it for half a day, remember the poor hens stand it every night. Clean it out perfectly clean; no half-way measures will do; if a board floor, scrape it down to the hardpan, move everything in it outdoors, saturate everything with kerosene oil, gasoline or liquid lye killer. Cover the floor, sides and everything with whitewash, air slacked lime or kerosene, any of these will do; put six inches of dry chaff or cut straw on the floor; along one side or end make a platform twenty inches from the floor; six inches above this put the roosts; put them in so they can be removed quickly at any time to paint with kerosene; roosts should never be nailed fast. Put the nests under the platform, use small boxes so they can be removed any time and be cleaned; have nothing in the house that lice can hide under in such shape that you can't get at them. If you have a dirt floor, clean out way down below where the hens have been, fill in with clean dry dirt four inches higher than the outside. Now you are ready for the fowls; send for the poultry buyer the first thing you do, sell him one-half of the flock. (I have heard that two-thirds of an average farmer's flock was a damage to him; one-third roosters and one-third be-whiskered, toothless, old hens and young, stunted pullets.) I won't put it quite so bad, but will say one-half are no good; sell all but the big pullets and the clean, bright hens under two years old. Sell every one of those roosters that look like a cross between a rattlesnake and a goose. Get a pure-bred male or get three or four if your flock is quite large. Now, as to feed, quit feeding all corn, remember a little corn is O. K., but all corn is dead wrong. Feed soft feed once a day, one-third corn and oats ground, one-third bran and one-third middlings. Feed wheat one night, oats one night, and in cold weather corn one night. Remember when the fowls have free range they will stand much more corn than when they are shut up in limited runs. Well-kept fowls never have cholera. I never had a case of it in my yards in my life.

August 20, 1898.

F. M. BRONSON.

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To pay the war expenses, they have put a tax on smoking. They have put a tax on tea and beer—in that there is no joking. They have taxed the patent medicines, and that will make them dearer. And messages by telephone—the "Hello" girl, just hear her! Our little checks are to be stamped, and parcels by expressage. And we must pay a little tax on telegraphic message. In fact, in quite a lot of ways we meet with evidences That Uncle Sam expects us all to pay the war expenses.

Some of the volunteer soldiers who were put under the command of regular army officers soon after the beginning of the Cuban war found it a little hard to learn all the lingo of the camps. An officer, says the Youth's Companion, sent a young volunteer orderly to requisition at the quartermaster's stores some tentage, and when he returned, questioned him:

"Orderly?"

"Yes, sir."

"Did you get the tents I ordered?"

"Yes, sir."

"Did you get the wall tents?"

"Yes, sir."

"And the A tents?"

"Yes, sir."

"And the dog tents?"

"Yes, sir."

"And the flies for the wall tents?"

"Flies, sir? No, sir!"

"What? Now why didn't you get the flies?"

The soldier saluted respectfully; at any rate, he combined a salute and a motion which brushed away a cloud of flies from in front of his nose.

"Camp is full of them, sir!" he answered.

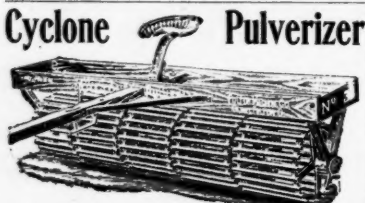
A well-known English bishop was making his annual round among the Sunday schools of his diocese, examining the children and encouraging them. One Sunday, after having spoken on the lesson, whose subject was "Jacob's Dream," he said: "Now, is there any question you would like to ask me?" For a moment there was a silence, then a small girl on a front bench spoke forth in a timid voice, "Please, my lord, if the angels had wings, why would they need a ladder?" This question was so unexpected that the poor bishop did not know what to reply, and was racking his brains for an answer when the eager voice of a farmer's little daughter cried out, "Please, my lord, I know." "Why was it, my dear?" asked the relieved bishop. "Because they were moulting."

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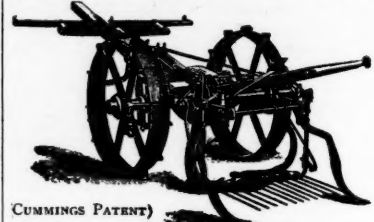
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